the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

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MARVEL

GREEN GOBLIN RETURNS

AMAZING

The Sin-Eater is back and more dangerous than ever. After using Norah Winters' Threats & Menaces site to broadcast his manifesto, he has started gathering a flock.

Sin-Eater is "cleansing" criminals of their sins, leaving them completely reformed and desperate to make amends. Spider-Man believed Sin-Eater's first victim, Overdrive, was the exception to this rule. Carlie Cooper revealed that vengeful cops actually attacked Overdrive in the hospital. This was not Sin-Eater's doing.

Desperate, Spidey broke up a gathering of Sin-Eater's recruits. But Sin-Eater completely outclassed the wall-crawler with stolen powers taken from "cleansed" super villains.

Now Sin-Eater's revealed his next target: Spider-Man's archnemesis — Norman Osborn!

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

GREEN GOBLIN RETURNS

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"ALL YOU NEED IS..."

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48

SINS RISING PART 4

THE SIN-EATER...

HE'S WINNING.

THE NUMBER OF HIS FOLLOWERS KEEPS GROWING--

--AND NOW THEY'RE MAKING THEIR PRESENCE FELT ALL ACROSS THE CITY.

GOING FORWARD, DOING THEIR NEWFOUND LEADER'S WORK--

--AND THEN SOME.

THEY'RE GOING AFTER ANYONE THEY BELIEVE IS GUILTY OF SIN.

EVEN AMONG THEIR OWN RANKS, THE DEFINITION SEEMS TO VARY QUITE A BIT.

MOST OF THE TIME IT SEEMS LIKE THE ACCUSED'S BIGGEST SIN IS BEING DIFFERENT FROM THEIR ACCUSER IN SOME WAY.

ONE THING THAT'S STRIKINGLY SIMILAR, THOUGH--

--IS HOW IT ENDS.

THEY'RE SUDDENLY EVERYWHERE, ALL AT ONCE. MORE THAN I CAN HANDLE--

--SO I CALL ON A FRIEND FOR HELP.

MILES MORALES, A.K.A. SPIDER-MAN.

THAM

SO LETTING PEOPLE HIDE BEHIND MASKS AND GO AFTER WHOEVER THEY DON'T LIKE TURNED OUT TO BE PRETTY POPULAR, HUH?

THWAK

OBVIOUSLY.

KUNK

WHO KNEW?

THUD

YEAH. I GUESS I'D FEEL LIKE A HYPOCRITE--

THWIP

--IF THESE GUYS WEREN'T MAKING IT SO EASY TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE.

THWIP

YOU AND THE GUY BEHIND ALL THIS--YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF HISTORY, RIGHT?

YEAH. BEFORE YOUR TIME.

WHAT'S HE DRIVING AT? WHAT DOES HE WANT?

A WORLD WITHOUT SIN...

YOU KNOW WHAT HE'S ABOUT TO DO.

OUR MASTER IS GOING TO FINISH THE JOB YOU NEVER COULD...

WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT?

YEAH, THIS IS WHERE IT GETS EVEN WORSE.

WHILE SOME OF HIS FOLLOWERS WRECK MANHATTAN, SIN-EATER HAS HIS OWN TARGET TO CLEANSE NEXT--

--NORMAN OSBORN.

THE GREEN GOBLIN.

THE MAN WHO'S TAKEN EVERYTHING FROM ME BEFORE.

THE MAN I HATE MOST IN THIS WORLD.

AND THE CURRENT HEAD OF THE RAVENCROFT INSTITUTE.

EVERYTHING SIN-EATER HAS DONE SO FAR HAS BEEN TRYING TO PUSH ME TO MY LIMITS--

--NOW HE'S ABOUT TO PUSH ME RIGHT PAST THEM.

DIRECTOR!

WHAT'S THIS NOW?

WE NEED TO EVACUATE YOU, SIR.

"OUR MEN AT THE GATES DON'T THINK THEY'LL BE ABLE TO HOLD ALL THE SIN-EATER'S FORCES OFF--

"--AND WE'RE EXPERIENCING DISRUPTIONS OF OUR OWN AMONG THE PATIENTS."

PLEASE, SIR, WE HAVE TO HURRY--

NONSENSE, CAPTAIN.

WHILE I APPRECIATE THE CONCERN, I WON'T BE GOING ANYWHERE...

RAVENCROFT IS MINE.

AND LEST WE FORGET...

"WE HAVE PLENTY OF WEAPONS AT OUR DISPOSAL."

KTOOM

NORMAN OSBORN?!

HE'S GOING AFTER NORMAN OSBORN?!

YEAH.

PETE--

YOU HAVE TO *LET* HIM.

MILES, YOU KNOW I CAN'T DO THAT--

WHY NOT?! I SAW THE STUFF ON *T&M*. HE'S NOT *KILLING* THEM, HE'S JUST-- JUST--

WE DON'T *KNOW* WHAT HE'S DOING TO THEM.

I KNOW THAT *NEFARIA* DUDE WENT FROM BEING AN INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST TO A GUY WHO KNITS A LOT.

IF THIS SIN-EATER CAN DO THAT TO OSBORN--AFTER EVERYTHING HE'S DONE--MAYBE SOME *GOOD* CAN COME OUT OF THIS AFTER ALL.

HIS FOLLOWERS JUST TRIED TO BLOW UP A MOSQUE.

YEAH. HE'S A *BAD GUY*, I GET IT. WE NEED TO STOP HIM.

BUT MAYBE WE JUST LET HIM DO HIS THING ON NORMAN FIRST, *THEN* WE STOP HIM. WIN-WIN.

LOOK, PETE-- YOU AND I HAVE COME ACROSS MORE THAN ONE NORMAN OSBORN. AND MAYBE I DON'T KNOW THIS ONE AS WELL AS YOU DO...

...BUT THERE'S ANOTHER ONE I'LL NEVER FORGET. THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM--

"IT WAS SORT OF THE FIRST TIME I MET YOU TOO."

NOW, I GET IT. ALTERNATE OSBORNS AND ALL. BUT THE LONGER I'M HERE, I REALIZE THINGS ARE MORE THE SAME THAN DIFFERENT.

SO MAYBE THEN IT WAS *ANOTHER* PETER. BUT WHAT IF NEXT TIME...

I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN TO YOU, MAN.

I APPRECIATE THAT, MILES. I REALLY DO. BUT IF THAT IS WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN--

AT LEAST I ALREADY KNOW SOMEBODY WILL BE THERE TO STEP UP WHEN I'M GONE.

HEY, I'M *ALREADY* STEPPING UP!

I'M STEPPED!

HATE TO SAY IT, BUT MILES DOES HAVE A POINT.

WHETHER IT'S THE GREEN GOBLIN OR NORMAN OSBORN--

--IT'S NOT HARD TO SEE HOW THIS STORY EVENTUALLY *ENDS.*

YES, I'VE MANAGED TO GET THE BEST OF HIM SO FAR, BUT EACH TIME I FACE HIM--

--HE KEEPS FINDING NEW WAYS TO BECOME MORE DEADLY-- MORE *DANGEROUS.*

HOW LONG BEFORE MY ALREADY TERRIBLE LUCK RUNS OUT?

THEN AGAIN--

--MAYBE *HIS* LUCK WILL RUN OUT FIRST.

NORMAN OSBORN!

I KNOW YOU CAN SEE US NOW!

AND SOON, YOU WILL FEEL OUR WRATH. WON'T HE, MY FRIENDS? BUT BEFORE WE CAN BEGIN--

--I MADE YOU A PROMISE, DIDN'T I?

LAY YOUR HANDS UPON ME, ALL OF YOU-- RECEIVE THIS GIFT--

--ACCEPT YOUR *CALLING*, AS I ACCEPTED *MINE*.

GOOD. GOOD.

NOW GO FORWARD IN MY NAME--

--AND *CLEANSE*.

SO YEAH, THIS MIGHT BE MY LIFE OR HIS. THAT'S NOT A GOOD ENOUGH REASON FOR ME, THOUGH.

I TAKE THAT RISK EVERY DAY DOING THIS. AND I DO IT TO TRY AND STAND FOR SOMETHING.

IF I GIVE UP ON THOSE BELIEFS JUST TO SAVE MYSELF, WHAT WAS EVEN THE POINT?

BUT I'M NOT THE ONLY LIFE IN QUESTION HERE.

NOT BY A LONG SHOT.

NORMAN OSBORN HAS KILLED SO MANY PEOPLE I CARE ABOUT--

FRIENDS...

...ALLIES...

...EVEN...

SNAP

...GWEN?

WOW, PETE. YOU LOOK AWFUL.

INSERT LINE ABOUT SEEING A GHOST HERE. BA-DUMP-PA.

--I'M STILL GETTING USED TO IT.

YEAH, NOT THE SAME GWEN, OBVIOUSLY.

THE MARY JANES

THIS ONE'S FROM A DIFFERENT DIMENSION--

--WITH A *VERY* DIFFERENT STORY. TRUTH BE TOLD--

OKAY, SO, THIS IS A LITTLE WEIRD.

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TEXTED *ME*, REMEMBER?

OH YEAH.

YOU TALKED TO *MILES*.

HE'S REALLY *WORRIED* ABOUT YOU--

--HE THINKS YOU MIGHT BE ABOUT TO MAKE A *BIG MISTAKE.*

EVERYBODY DOES.

I DUNNO, NOT ME. SOUNDS LIKE A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL.

REALLY? BECAUSE--AND PLEASE, DON'T PUNCH ME FOR THIS--WELL... LOOK, I KNOW YOU ARE NOT *MY* GWEN STACY, AND I AM NOT *YOUR* PETER PARKER. I GET THAT.

BUT RIGHT NOW?

RIGHT NOW I JUST REALLY NEED TO KNOW WHAT SHE WOULD WANT ME TO DO--

--AND YOU ARE THE CLOSEST I CAN GET TO HAVING AN ANSWER.

I NEVER LOVED ANYBODY BEFORE GWEN.

THEN HE *MURDERED* HER.

THAT DAY, HOLDING HER THERE, I SHOOK MY FIST AND SWORE--

I SWORE I WOULD DO SOMETHING AND I *DIDN'T*... I *TRIED*, BUT I--

AND EVEN BEFORE THAT, THERE ARE THINGS I KEEP TRYING TO FORGET.

--SOMETIMES I KEEP MYSELF UP AT NIGHT WONDERING IF SHE'S WAITING FOR ME TO DO TO HIM WHAT I PROMISED.

YOU KNOW, IT CAN GET A LITTLE WEIRD LIVING HALF THE TIME IN A WORLD WHERE YOU'RE *BURIED* SOMEWHERE.

GOTTA FIND WAYS TO MAKE PEACE WITH IT.

THE TOUGHEST PART, REALLY, IS DEALING WITH PEOPLE WHO PRIMARILY KNOW YOU, OR *REMEMBER* YOU, BECAUSE OF YOUR *DEATH.*

THEY ALL PRETEND TO KNOW THIS ANGELIC, IDEALIZED GWEN. THE PERFECT GIRL. THE TRAGIC VICTIM. BUT THAT'S DEFINITELY NOT WHO I AM--

--AND I DOUBT *YOURS* WAS *EITHER.*

SHE WASN'T THE SUBPLOT IN YOUR STORY OR ANYONE ELSE'S. HOWEVER SHE ENDED UP HERE, ON THIS BRIDGE, THAT WAS HER LIFE, GOOD AND BAD. SHE *OWNED* IT.

YOU'VE GOT A TOUGH CHOICE TO MAKE HERE-- BUT IT'S *YOUR* CHOICE NOW.

MY CHOICE--

--AND IT'S NOT GETTING ANY EASIER.

I TOLD YOU-- NONE OF THIS IS NECESSARY.

THEY'VE BREACHED THE FACILITY SIR. WHATEVER HE DID TO HIS FOLLOWERS, THEY'RE UNSTOPPABLE NOW. WE NEED TO AT LEAST GET YOU TO A SAFE--

UNFF!

IDIOT! LOOK OUT!

WHY IS THIS SO HARD FOR ME?

WHY CAN'T I JUST THROW HIM TO THE WOLVES?

FEELS LIKE EVERYTHING IS CLOSING IN AROUND ME--

--AND I'M TRAPPED NO MATTER WHICH WAY I GO.

OH, NORMAN...

WHY DOES IT ALWAYS HAVE TO BE YOU?

SOME PEOPLE MIGHT CALL IT DESTINY.

JULIA?! HOW DID YOU--

OH. RIGHT.

JULIA CARPENTER.

SHE USED TO BE SPIDER-WOMAN--WELL, A SPIDER-WOMAN--UNTIL A CLAIRVOYANT WITH LINKS TO THE WEB OF LIFE AND DESTINY PASSED ON HER POWERS TO HER--

--MAKING HER THE NEW *MADAME WEB.*

I'M HERE BECAUSE THE *WEB* TELLS ME THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT MOMENT IN YOUR LIFE, PETER. AND THE OUTCOME OF ALL OF IT REMAINS... FRUSTRATINGLY UNCLEAR TO ME.

THE SIN-EATER, WHO TERRIFIES YOU, IS MAKING A MOVE ON THE MAN YOU FEAR MOST IN THIS WORLD. AND YOU, WELL... YOU'RE *YOU.*

PARALYZED BY A MIX OF DOUBT, GUILT, AND RESPONSIBILITY.

I ASSUME THE INNER NARRATION MUST BE OVERWHELMING.

I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...

OKAY, THEN, LET'S JUST WALK THROUGH IT TOGETHER.

YOU'VE ALREADY CONSIDERED HOW ***DANGEROUS*** HE IS. HOW EVERY TIME YOU FACE HIM, YOU'RE PLAYING WITH DEATH.

YOU SHRUG THAT OFF. YOU'RE NOT WORRIED ABOUT YOURSELF. YOU'LL TAKE THAT CHANCE.

BUT THEN YOU'RE HAUNTED BY THE MEMORY OF ALL THE ***INNOCENT PEOPLE*** WHO HAVE ***DIED*** AT OSBORN'S HAND.

THE ONES YOU ***LOVED***, ESPECIALLY. YOU FEEL THAT HURT ***EVERY DAY.***

YOU WON'T LET THAT PAIN DECIDE FOR YOU, EITHER, THOUGH. THIS ISN'T ABOUT ***REVENGE.*** IT ***CAN'T*** BE.

SO NOW YOU FIND YOURSELF AT THE LAST QUESTION, THE ONE YOU JUST CAN'T GET PAST.

IT WOULD ALL BE SO MUCH EASIER IF THE SIN-EATER WANTED TO KILL HIM--

--BUT HE WANTS TO ***CURE*** HIM.

YOU KNOW THAT'S A ***TRAP.*** THAT THERE'S SOMETHING SINISTER AND IMMORAL ABOUT WHAT HE'S DOING. EVEN STILL, NORMAN OSBORN, MADE HARMLESS--

--HOW MANY ***LIVES*** WOULD THAT SAVE?

BECAUSE I DON'T NEED MY POWERS TO TELL YOU, PETER--THAT MAN, AS LONG AS HE WALKS THE EARTH AS IS, I CAN PROMISE YOU--

--HE ***WILL*** KILL AGAIN.

SHE'S RIGHT, OF COURSE.

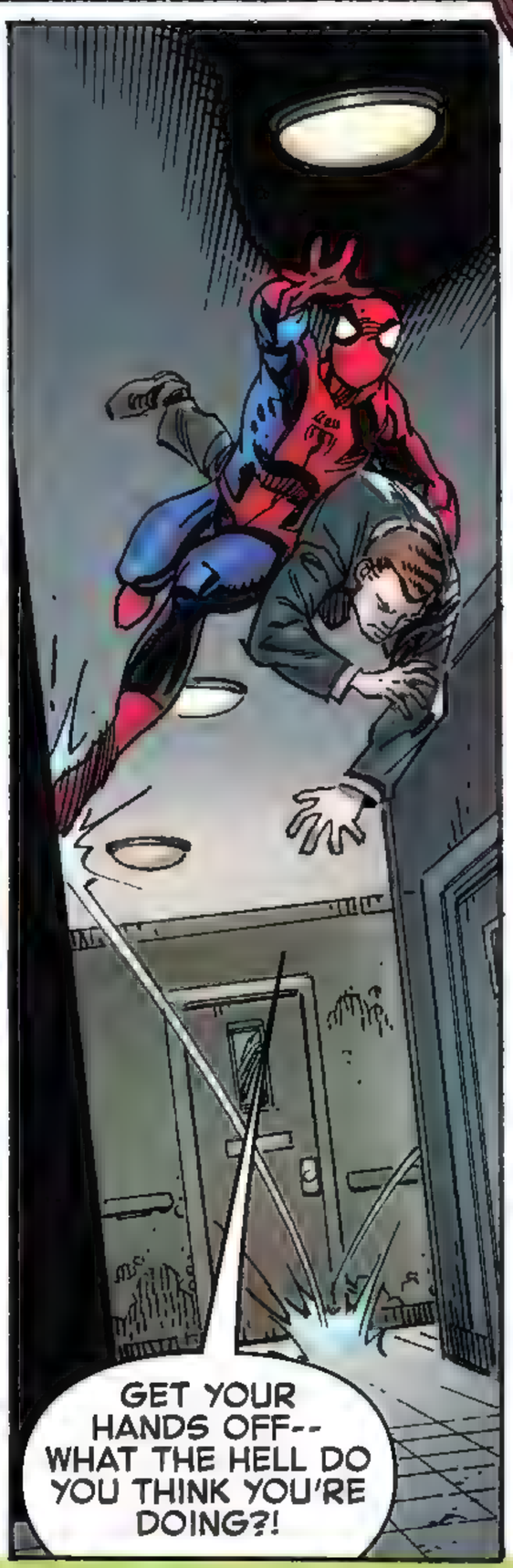
THE ONLY QUESTION IS WHEN.

WHEN DOES THE MONSTER COME BACK OUT?

WHEN DOES HE COME FOR SOMEONE ELSE YOU LOVE?

SOMEONE...

CRASH!



WHAT DOES IT *LOOK* LIKE, NORMAN?

KRAK

GET YOUR HANDS OFF-- WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!

I'M *RESCUING* YOU.

HE ACTUALLY WENT.

CAN'T SAY I'M SURPRISED.

I THOUGHT I'D GOTTEN THROUGH. I THOUGHT I UNDERSTOOD HIM.

THAT'S IT, THEN.

IF THE GHOSTS OF CHRISTMAS PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE ACT DIDN'T GET THROUGH, NOTHING WILL.

MAYBE--

--BUT THERE ARE *OTHER* WAYS WE COULD'VE DONE THIS. PERIOD.

I THINK SHE MEANS WE SHOULD'VE *BEATEN HIM UP.*

NO. HE HAD TO MAKE HIS CHOICE. NOW WE HAVE TO MAKE OURS.

I THINK WE ALL KNOW WHAT HAS TO BE DONE HERE--

WE HAVE TO STOP SPIDER-MAN.

THE SINS OF NORMAN OSBORN

PREVIOUSLY IN THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN:

IN A RECENT DREAM, PETER PARKER WAS BURIED ALIVE.

WOULDN'T TAKE FREUD TO POINT OUT SIMILARITIES TO SPIDER-MAN'S LIFE...

THE SIN-EATER WAS BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE AND HAS BEEN WALKING THE STREETS OF NYC, CAUSING BIGGER PROBLEMS THAN EVER.

EACH TIME HE PULLED THE TRIGGER ON A SUPER VILLAIN, SIN-EATER GAINED NOT ONLY THEIR POWERS, BUT UNPOWERED CIVILIAN FOLLOWERS WHO DON'T WANT THE SPREE TO STOP.

THOSE VILLAINS SIN-EATER SHOT? THEY'RE VERY MUCH ALIVE AND VERY MUCH REFORMED. WIN-WIN, YOU MIGHT THINK, AND MAYBE CONSIDER DONNING A GREEN BALACLAVA YOURSELF.

ESPECIALLY ONCE YOU LEARN HIS NEXT TARGET IS SPIDEY'S WORST VILLAIN EVER, NORMAN OSBORN.

SPIDER-MAN DOESN'T TRUST IT, THOUGH, KNOWING THAT THE MYSTERIOUS CENTIPEDE-WEARING KINDRED HAS A PART IN ALL OF THIS.

AND THAT DREAM WE MENTIONED AT THE TOP? THAT WASN'T PETER'S, AND HE HASN'T BEEN THE ONLY ONE DREAMING...

WE HAVE TO STOP HIM.

WE HAVE TO STOP *SPIDER-MAN--*

--AND WE CAN ONLY DO IT *TOGETHER.*

YEAH, I GUESS THAT'S THE PART I'M NOT FOLLOWING...

WHY *US?* I MEAN, WE'VE NEVER REALLY BEEN A TEAM. DON'T GET ME WRONG, I'M UP FOR HELPING SPIDEY--

WE *ALL* ARE. BUT THE ONE WHOSE NAME I DON'T REMEMBER IS RIGHT, JULIA. WE DON'T ACTUALLY HAVE A LOT IN COMMON HERE BESIDES THE MATCHING OUTFITS.

THAT'S **ANYA CORAZON**, A.K.A. ***SPIDER-GIRL.*** *COME ON, JESS.* *--NICK*

IT'S MORE THAN THAT, JESSICA. TO WEAR THE SYMBOL OF THE SPIDER IS TO BECOME ITS ***TOTEM.***

TEAM OR NOT, ALL OF US ARE CONNECTED BY THE ***WEB OF LIFE AND DESTINY.*** OUR PATHS ARE TANGLED TOGETHER.

USUALLY THAT MEANS LITTLE. SPIDERS ARE, BY NATURE, SOLITARY. BUT SOMETIMES SOMETHING HAPPENS THAT BRINGS US TOGETHER--

"LIKE WHEN THE *KRAVINOFFS* TRIED TO HUNT ALL OF US...

"...WHEN THE *INHERITORS* ATTACKED US ACROSS THE MULTIVERSE..."

...AND NOW *TODAY*, WHEN SPIDER-MAN'S LIFE IS, AS WE ALL KNOW, IN DANGER.

WE'RE NOT SURE ABOUT THAT.

OH, COME ON, *GWEN*. YOU SAW IT JUST LIKE THE REST OF US.

I DON'T KNOW *WHAT* I SAW.

THEN WHY DON'T YOU TRY TELLING US AGAIN?

SIGH FINE--

IT WAS JUST A DREAM.

EXCEPT IT WASN'T--

WE ALL SAW IT, DIDN'T WE? EXCEPT IN MINE, IT WAS AT *EMPIRE STATE*--

SAME ENDING, THOUGH.

QUEENS FOR ME.

AVENGERS MANSION.

THE WEB IS CRYING OUT IN ANGUISH. HER CHAMPION IS ABOUT TO FALL.

WHAT YOU EXPERIENCED WERE NOT DREAMS. THEY WERE VISIONS OF WHAT'S TO COME. AND IN ALL OF THEM, THE OUTCOME IS THE SAME.

SPIDER-MAN, SLAIN. AND THE MAN RESPONSIBLE--

"--NORMAN OSBORN."

THIS SHOULD COME AS A SURPRISE TO NO ONE.

NEARLY EVERYONE HERE HAS SUFFERED AT OSBORN'S HAND. NO EVIL HAS THREATENED US LIKE THE GREEN GOBLIN.

BUT IT APPEARS THE MONSTER'S LUCK RAN OUT--

"--WHEN HE FELL INTO THE CROSSHAIRS OF THE *SIN-EATER.*"

IF THE SIN-EATER ELIMINATES OSBORN AS A THREAT, HE'S NO LONGER A THREAT TO SPIDER-MAN. OUR PROBLEM IS SOLVED.

YEAH, SMALL HANG-UP THERE--

--THERE'S ONE PERSON NOT EXACTLY DOWN WITH YOUR PLAN.

"I MEAN, A FEW OF US HAVE TRIED TALKING HIM OUT OF IT, AND HE IS HEARING *NONE* OF IT.

"THE ONLY ONE NOT GOING ALONG WITH THE PLOT TO SAVE SPIDER-MAN--

"--IS SPIDER-MAN."

THERE YOU ARE, NORMAN. I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU!

DON'T WORRY. IT'S JUST YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SWORN ENEMY!

HERE TO RESCUE YOU. AGAIN.

GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME, YOU MISCREANT!

HEY, I'M TRYING TO DO YOU A SOLID HERE, NORMAN.

THUD

IF IT WEREN'T FOR ME, THESE GUYS WOULD'VE TORN YOU TO SHREDS.

I'M TRYING, FOR REASONS I'M STILL STRUGGLING WITH, TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE IN ONE PIECE. BUT YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY MAKING IT EASY FOR ME--

KRAK

--WHAT WITH HOW YOU KEEP TRYING TO SLINK AWAY FROM ME EVERY TIME I TURN MY BACK ON YOU.

SLINK AWAY? LOOK AROUND YOU, YOU ARROGANT CHILD--

THIS IS *MY HOUSE* YOU'RE STANDING IN. *RAVENCROFT* IS UNDER *MY CONTROL.*

AND I WILL NOT BE CHASED FROM IT BY THIS--

THAP

AR-RH

BWAM

--FILTH.

NOR WILL I BE CARRIED OUT OF IT BY THE LIKES OF YOU, *PRETENDING* TO BE MY RESCUER. AFTER ALL, YOU'RE NOT TERRIBLY GOOD AT SAVING *ANYONE* WHEN IT REALLY MATTERS--

--AT LEAST NOT IN *MY* EXPERIENCE.

FWAM

ENOUGH!

YOU WANNA TALK ABOUT OUR "*EXPERIENCES*" TOGETHER, NORMAN?

FINE. I HAVE BEEN TRAPPED IN A SPIRAL OF *DEATH* AND *PAIN* AND *HURT* WITH YOUR FACE ATTACHED TO IT FOR MORE YEARS THAN I CARE TO COUNT--

--AND IT IS TAKING *EVERY* FIBER OF MY BEING NOT TO THROW YOU TO THE WOLVES. BUT HERE'S THE THING--

--I DON'T BUY THE DEFIANT ACT. THIS ISN'T ABOUT YOUR PRIDE. OR AT LEAST, NOT *ALL* OF IT.

I KNOW YOU, NORMAN. I HATE THAT I DO, BUT I *KNOW* YOU-- HOW YOUR SICK, TWISTED MIND OPERATES.

YOU'RE *HIDING* SOMETHING. JUST LIKE ALWAYS.

SOMEWHERE IN THIS GOD-FORSAKEN PLACE, THERE'S SOMETHING YOU WANT TO GET TO.

AND YOU ARE TRYING TO GET TO IT WITHOUT ME. WELL, *TOO BAD.*

LIKE IT OR NOT, THIS TIME, YOU AND ME? WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER--

"--TO THE BITTER END."

I DON'T UNDERSTAND--

--WHY IS HE *DOING* THIS?

I MEAN, IF SIN-EATER WAS TRYING TO *KILL* HIM, BUT... ISN'T HE *CURING* THESE BAD GUYS? THAT'S WHAT *THREATS & MENACES* IS REPORTING.

MAYBE IF WE ALL TALKED TO HIM--

WE TRIED ALREADY.

YEAH, I TRIED TO WARN HIM. EVENTUALLY, IF HE DOESN'T DO SOMETHING, THAT GUY'S GONNA KILL HIM--

--AND OSBORN WILL ASSUREDLY KILL *OTHERS* ALONG THE WAY. I PROMISED HIM THAT.

IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.

HE KNOWS ALL THAT.

NOBODY HATES NORMAN MORE THAN *HE* DOES.

IF HE THOUGHT THIS WAS REALLY A WAY TO STOP HIM, HE WOULD DO IT IN A HEARTBEAT.

BUT HE ALSO KNOWS YOU CAN'T MAKE A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL AND NOT EXPECT TO PAY THE PRICE.

WE ALL KNOW HOW EVIL OSBORN IS. BUT FOR ALL WE KNOW, THIS SIN-EATER WEIRDO AND WHATEVER'S BEHIND HIM...

"...WHO'S TO SAY THEY'RE NOT EVEN *WORSE?*"

TOWER, WE NEED REINFORCEMENTS, STAT! TOO MANY OF THESE IDIOTS--WE'RE ABOUT TO BE--

KNOCK

--CLEANSED. AS WITH THE MONEY CHANGERS AND SELLERS--

--THIS HOUSE WILL BE RID OF SIN SOON.

BLAM! BLAM!

HN.

ACTUAL BRAVERY.

I CAN ADMIRE THAT--

BUT THIS WORLD'S WICKEDNESS CAN BLIND EVEN THE MOST WELL MEANING--

LET ME SHOW YOU THE WAY.

HOURS EARLIER...

"I DON'T UNDERSTAND."

I'VE DONE EVERYTHING YOU ASKED OF ME, BEEN YOUR GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT.

AND STILL YOU *FORSAKE* ME. *WHY?!*

YOU SAVED ME. GAVE ME A CALLING. YOU SENT ME OUT INTO THE WORLD TO DO YOUR WORK, AND EVER SINCE THEN--

--SILENCE.

HAVE I *DISPLEASED* YOU? HAVE I FAILED YOU IN SOME WAY I DON'T UNDERSTAND?

I'VE GATHERED THE FLOCK. I'VE PROMISED THEM A MIRACLE, JUST LIKE I WAS INSTRUCTED-- BUT I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT TO DO NOW. PLEASE--

--PLEASE JUST GIVE ME A SIGN...

CREAK

WHO'S THERE? I TOLD ALL OF YOU TO WAIT OUT--

YOU... THE ONE FROM THE GATHERING YESTERDAY.

I'M SORRY I RAN AWAY. SPIDER-MAN AND I--WE HAVE SOME VERY UNPLEASANT *HISTORY.*

BUT I HAD TO FIND YOU AGAIN. I MEANT WHAT I SAID BACK THERE. I WANT YOU TO *CLEANSE* ME, I WANT TO BE *FREE* OF THIS...

HH. THE STENCH OF SIN IS ALL OVER YOU. BUT REMOVE THAT HOOD. I WANT TO SEE WHO IT IS I'LL BE SAVING.

HH--
HH--

HA HA HA HA

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

HA HA HA HA HA

HE HEARD ME. HE *HEARS*...

"...AND HE *ANSWERS.*"

BLAM

YOUR SINS HAVE BEEN CLEANSED, MARTIN LI.

"THE EVILS OF MR. NEGATIVE WILL CONDEMN YOU NO MORE--"

AND FROM THIS ACT OF REDEMPTION--

--A RECKONING WILL COME.

ARE YOU READY TO RECEIVE MY GIFT, THEN?

READY TO SEE THE TRUTH?

LIEUTENANT?

BLAM

BLAM

NOW GO IN MY NAME.

YOU WANTED TO KNOW WHERE I WAS "SLINKING AWAY" TO?

NOW I'VE SHOWN YOU.

WAIT, THIS--

--IS YOUR OLD CELL.

AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T VISIT.

I COME HERE TO *REFLECT.* TO THINK--

--AND TO PLAN FOR THE FUTURE. AFTER ALL, SOMETIMES, TO UNDERSTAND WHAT'S AHEAD--

ZZZZ

VUZZAAAA

--YOU HAVE TO GO BACK TO WHERE IT ALL BEGAN.

I KNEW IT.

AHH

IT'S ALWAYS SOME *SECRET ROOM* WITH YOU. UNBELIEVABLE.

THIS ONE YOU'LL END UP *THANKING* ME FOR.

EVENTUALLY.

WAIT-- WHERE IS THIS? IS THIS *EMPIRE STATE?* NORMAN--

--WHAT WERE YOU *DOING* DOWN HERE?

THAT NEEDN'T CONCERN YOU NOW, WEB-SLINGER.

NO, OUR FOCUS SHOULD BE HERE, ON *RAVENCROFT.* AND THE INMATE WE CAN USE TO TURN THE TIDE.

INMATE? FUNNY, I COULD'VE SWORN THEY WERE ALL EVACUATED-- ACCORDING TO YOU.

ALL BUT ONE-- A RECENT ARRIVAL. HE'S QUITE-- DIFFICULT TO TRANSPORT.

HE'S ALSO PROVEN RESISTANT TO EVEN OUR MOST INTENSIVE ATTEMPTS AT REHABILITATION.

PRETTY SURE YOU MEAN *BRAINWASHING--*

BUT AS A WEAPON, IF POINTED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, HE'S MORE THAN CAPABLE OF DEALING WITH THIS SIN-EATER AND HIS MOB. ALL WE NEED TO DO IS--

NO!

WHAT IS IT?

HE'S--HE'S *GONE...*

COMPUTER, BRING UP FOOTAGE FROM THE LAST TEN MINUTES--

THIS IS *IMPOSSIBLE.* NO ONE COULD GET INTO THAT CELL. THE ONLY PEOPLE WITH ACCESS WERE MYSELF AND--

DOCTOR KAFKA!

WHAT'S THE *MEANING* OF THIS?!

I'M SORRY, MA'AM--WE NEED TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE.

I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND-- DIRECTOR OSBORN SAID I WASN'T TO LEAVE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE.

I'M AFRAID THE ROOM IS NO LONGER SECURE-- PLEASE! WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME--

HE'S RIGHT. YOUR TIME IS UP, ASHLEY KAFKA--

--AND NORMAN OSBORN IS NO LONGER IN CHARGE OF THIS FACILITY.

WAIT-- DOCTOR KAFKA'S *ALIVE*?!

INDEED...

"...THOUGH PERHAPS NOT FOR MUCH LONGER."

PFFT PFFT

kreeeak

OSBORN? THAT YOU?

WELL, WHOEVER YOU ARE, IT DON'T MATTER--

THE JUGGERNAUT

GONNA RIP ALL A' YOU TO SHREDS!

I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN DO THIS.

I UNDERSTAND.

THIS ISN'T AN EASY CHOICE TO MAKE, AND THERE IS NO SIMPLE ANSWER--

--BUT WE DO HAVE THE *WEB* TO GUIDE US.

OKAY, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING I DON'T GET ABOUT THAT. WHY THE BIG SECRET?

WHEN YOU TALKED TO HIM, WHY DIDN'T YOU ALL JUST *TELL* HIM?

OR AT LEAST TRY TO STOP HIM BEFORE HE WENT IN THERE?

IT DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY--

SPIDER-MAN'S THREADS LED HIM HERE, TO A MOMENT OF DECISION. HE HAD TO BE ALLOWED TO FOLLOW THAT THREAD TO ITS CONCLUSION.

NOW THE WEB TURNS TO US AND OUR CHOICE...

WHO'S READY?

LET'S GO.

AYE.

YEP.

ME TOO.

SIGH--

OKAY.

GOOD, IF THAT'S SETTLED--

--THE ORDER OF THE WEB IS FORMED.

OH MAN, A TEAM NAME AND EVERYTHING. THIS IS THE WORST.

I'M ACTUALLY SURPRISED YOU AGREED TO THIS, MILES.

HEY, I'VE ALREADY SEEN THE GUY DIE ONCE. WOULD RATHER NOT AGAIN. THAT REMINDS ME--

--I WANTED TO *ASK* YOU SOMETHING.

GO AHEAD.

WE ALL TALKED ABOUT OUR DREAMS, OR VISIONS, OR WHATEVER. BUT-- *YOU* NEVER DID...

"WHAT DID YOU SEE?"

SOMETHING *WORSE.*

YOU MONSTER!

KRACK

DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU'VE DONE?!

HNFF-- I DID WHAT WAS NECESSARY--

--TO STOP WHAT'S COMING. YOU'VE SEEN HIM TOO, HAVEN'T YOU?

KINDRED.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HIM?!

I KNOW THE SIN-EATER IS JUST THE BEGINNING.

I KNOW HE WON'T STOP UNTIL BOTH OF US ARE DEAD. AND HE'LL HAPPILY SACRIFICE THIS ENTIRE GODFORSAKEN CITY TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.

HH...YOU SEE NOW, DON'T YOU? WHAT YOU WERE SAYING BEFORE IS TRUE.

LIKE IT OR NOT, WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER--

--TO THE *BITTER* END.

#49 VARIANT BY MARK BAGLEY, JOHN DELL & JASON KEITH

49

THE RETURN OF THE GREEN GOBLIN

"THERE WAS A TIME WHEN YOU WERE LIKE A *SON* TO ME, PETER.

"THE SON I NEVER *HAD.*

"MY CHANCE FOR A *LEGACY.*"

OF COURSE, SO MUCH HAS COME BETWEEN US SINCE THEN, HASN'T IT?

AND OUR BURGEONING FAMILIAL LOVE TURNED TO *HATE.*

LIAR.

HOW LONG HAVE WE *TORMENTED* ONE ANOTHER?

I CALL YOU A FOOL, YOU CALL ME A MADMAN. I KILL SOMEONE YOU LOVE--

--YOU LOCK ME AWAY IN A PLACE LIKE THIS. IT'S A VICIOUS CYCLE.

ONE I CERTAINLY *NEVER* BELIEVED WOULD END.

DON'T TRUST HIM.

BUT THESE ARE EXTRAORDINARY AND DANGEROUS TIMES, PETER. WE MUST CHANGE OUR HABITS IN THE FACE OF THEM.

YOU AND I BOTH KNOW--

"--HE'S COMING."

KINDRED'S SHADOW FALLS OVER ALL THIS.

AND BEFORE WE CAN EVEN *BEGIN* TO DEAL WITH HIM--

MONSTER!

"--THERE'S WHAT WAITS BELOW."

RRRRRRRRRR!!!!!

"IT ISN'T A CHOICE AT ALL, IS IT?

SHUT UP.

"YOU *KNOW* WHAT MUST BE DONE.

I WON'T DO IT.

"TO SAVE YOUR CITY--

I WON'T LET YOU--

"--TO SAVE EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING YOU *LOVE*.

STOP!

PLEASE.

I CAN'T LET THIS HAPPEN.

"YOU CAN'T STOP HIM ALONE.

NO.

"YOU KNOW YOU NEED MY HELP.

NO...

"YOU AND I, PETER--WE WERE *DESTINED* FOR THIS.

NO!!!

"TOGETHER, LET'S FULFILL OUR DESTINY...

"SPIDER-MAN AND THE GREEN GOBLIN--

"--FIGHTING SIDE BY SIDE!"

THE RETURN OF THE GREEN GOBLIN:

chapter one

UNSTOPPABLE

THIS IS *WRONG.* YOU *KNOW* IT'S WRONG.

YOU DID THIS TO *STOP* A MONSTER--

--NOT TO RESURRECT *ANOTHER* ONE!

THE GOBLIN HAS TAKEN *EVERYTHING* FROM YOU.

MORE THAN ONCE.

AND YOU KNOW IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME--

--BEFORE HE DOES IT AGAIN.

GOTCHA!

YOU KNOW, I TAKE GREAT OFFENSE AT YOUR APPROPRIATION.

I MEAN, PURPLE AND GREEN?! THAT'S *MY* COLOR MOTIF! THE NERVE. BESIDES, YOU'D LOOK MUCH BETTER--

--IN *RED!*

NO!

UNFF!

LET'S GET ONE THING STRAIGHT, NORMAN--

--IT IS TAKING EVERY FIBER OF MY BEING NOT TO WEB YOU UP AFTER A SOUND BEATING.

BUT THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY I AM GOING ALONG WITH THIS--YOU ARE PLAYING BY MY RULES.

YOU HEAR ME?! WE ARE DOING THIS MY WAY. WHICH MEANS--

NO ONE D--

NO!

SIN EATER'S FOLLOWER-- HIS ARM--

--IT'S GROWING BACK?

YOU WERE SAYING?

"OKAY, THIS IS GETTING CREEPY..."

YEAH, GETTING A REAL *BEETLEJUICE* VIBE RIGHT NOW. DID I FORGET GETTING HIT BY A TRUCK OR SOMETHING?

WE'RE NOT *GHOSTS*, SILK.

OUR SOULS ARE INSIDE THE WEB OF LIFE AND DESTINY--

--WHILE OUR MORTAL FORMS HOLD NEARBY. WE'RE HERE TO OBSERVE--

--AS A MOMENT OF *GREAT CONSEQUENCE* IS ABOUT TO OCCUR.

YEAH, THAT'S THE PART I'M NOT UNDERSTANDING.

SPIDER-MAN IS IN TROUBLE DOWN THERE. *IN* THERE. WHEREVER.

WHY AREN'T WE HELPING AGAIN?

BECAUSE IT ISN'T TIME YET, ANYA.

SPIDER-WOMAN IS RIGHT. THIS IS NOT THE FIGHT WE NEED TO BE CONCERNED WITH.

YOU ALL SAW THE VISIONS. IF WE DON'T STOP HIM--

"--THE GREEN GOBLIN IS GOING TO KILL SPIDER-MAN.

"BUT THERE IS *SOMETHING ELSE* STANDING IN THE WAY OF THAT.

RRRRIIIIIII

"THE *SIN-EATER.*"

ONLY *AFTER* HE CLEANSES NORMAN OSBORN--THEN WE STEP IN.

ONE SMALL PROBLEM WITH THIS PLAN--SPIDEY AND THE GOBLIN RIGHT NOW ARE APPARENTLY, *UM...*

"...PALS?"

I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD *SEE* SOMETHING LIKE THIS. I KNOW THIS SIN-EATER HAD GOTTEN UNDER HIS SKIN, BUT--

IT'S ONE THING TO WANT TO STOP HIM FROM DOING...WHATEVER HE IS DOING--

LETTING OSBORN BECOME THE *GOBLIN* AGAIN, THOUGH--

YEAH...

...IT KILLS ME TO SAY THIS, BUT--

--THE GUY IS NOT THINKING CLEARLY RIGHT NOW. WE GOTTA STOP HIM.

OR, SECOND OPTION...

...WE DON'T.

REALLY? *THIS* AGAIN?

YEAH, THOUGHT WE WERE ALL IN ON THIS BY NOW--

I'M ALLOWED TO CHANGE MY MIND.

JUST LIKE I'M ALLOWED TO TRY TO CHANGE YOURS.

TOO MANY OF THEM. AND THEY'RE INDESTRUCTIBLE.

I MAY NOT KNOW HOW THAT HAPPENED--

--BUT I KNOW WHO DID IT...

RRRR!!!!!!!!

SURROUNDED--

SWARMED--

KH-THOOM

CAN'T HOLD OUT MUCH LONGER--

KH-THOOM

BUT MAYBE I WON'T NEED TO?

KH-THOOM

HIS FOLLOWERS-- THEY JUST... STOPPED? AND THAT SOUND--

...THE HECK?

KH-THOOM

KNEELING--

OH NO...

KH-THOOM

KH-THOOM

HE'S HERE.

SO IT'S COME TO THIS, THEN--

YOUR SINS. SO MANY...

THEY *CONSUMED* YOU IN THE END.

LOOK AT THE TWO OF YOU.

SO MUCH *HATRED*, SUCH A TORTURED HISTORY--

--YET NOW I CAN BARELY TELL YOU APART.

I CAN'T LET YOU DO THIS, STAN--

--NOT EVEN TO *HIM*.

UNREAL. LOOK WHERE YOUR GUILT HAS BROUGHT YOU.

I'M OFFERING YOU ***SALVATION*** FROM THIS MONSTER, AND INSTEAD YOU STAND IN MY ***WAY?*** I WISH I COULD SAY I WAS SURPRISED--

I AGREE.

HE IS THE ***PREDICTABLE*** SORT, ISN'T HE?

SUCH A BLEEDING HEART, NEVER WILLING TO DO WHAT IT TAKES. WHAT'S THE WORD...?

SOFT?

--I'VE ALREADY PICKED OUT A LOVELY ***CELL*** FOR YOU!

OH YES, MR. CARTER. I'VE READ YOUR FILE. ALL THE THINGS YOU TOLD THE NICE DOCTORS IN ORDER TO EARN YOUR RELEASE THE ***LAST*** TIME YOU WERE INSTITUTIONALIZED.

WELL, I WANT TO ASSURE YOU--

GOBLIN, ***NO!***

IF GOBBY THINKS HE CAN PUMPKIN BOMB HIS WAY OUT OF THIS--

--HE'S IN FOR A RUDE AWAKENING.

HKK--!

GOTTA MOVE FAST.

HEY, STANLEY! NICE NEW LOOK--

--BUT THE HULK NEEDS HIS PURPLE STRETCHY PANTS BACK.

TRUST ME, YOU WOULDN'T LIKE HIM WHEN HE WEARS KHAKIS.

LAUGH IT UP, SPIDEY.

THIS ISN'T JUST THE SIN-EATER ANYMORE.

THIS IS THE SIN-EATER WITH THE POWER OF THE JUGGERNAUT.

YOU CAN HIT HIM AS HARD AND AS FAST AS YOU LIKE--

--NOTHING'S GONNA STOP THAT.

THE RETURN OF THE GREEN GOBLIN:

chapter two

THE DEBT

OKAY, CAN I MAKE A *SUGGESTION?* THE PLAN WAS SUPPOSED TO BE TO GET YOU *AWAY* FROM HIM--

--MAYBE A FRONTAL ASSAULT ISN'T THE WAY TO GO?

HH. WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ME DO, THEN?

I'M TALKING ABOUT AN *ESCAPE ROUTE,* NORMAN.

WELL, IT WON'T BE EASY.

"HIS FOLLOWERS HAVE BUILT HUMAN WALLS AROUND EVERY POINT OF EGRESS IN THE FACILITY."

OH, *COME ON,* NORMAN--I ALREADY SAW THE HIDDEN LAIR, REMEMBER?

I *KNOW* YOU HAVE ANOTHER WAY OUT.

SIGH SUBBASEMENT LEVEL, THERE'S A DOCK STATION--STILL VERY MUCH UNDER CONSTRUCTION, MIND YOU.

BUT THERE'S A SMALL VESSEL THERE THAT CAN TAKE US THROUGH THE WATERWAY AND OUT TO THE RIVER.

AN UNDERGROUND WATERWAY--BENEATH *RAVENCROFT?* NORMAN, FOR THE LAST TIME-- WHAT ARE YOU *DOING?!*

NOW'S NOT THE TIME TO DISCUSS IT, LITTLE SPIDER...

WE HAVE OTHER THINGS TO CONCERN OURSELVES WITH, AFTER ALL.

CHK-VVVTTT

BUT REST ASSURED, I HAVE MADE THE MOST OF MY TIME REBUILDING RAVENCROFT. AND AS YOU CAN SEE--

--THIS INSTITUTION IS ONLY STRONGER FOR IT.

FSSSSHHHH-

KOOOOOM

YOU *KNOW* THAT WON'T STOP HIM, RIGHT?

PERHAPS NOT, BUT IT DOES GIVE US AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SOMETHING YOU'RE OH SO GOOD AT...

RUN AND HIDE!

HA HA HA

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GONNA SAY--WE'VE TALKED THIS THROUGH. WE'VE MADE A DECISION.

BUT THAT'S *EXACTLY* MY PROBLEM WITH THIS--

--IT'S NOT *OUR* DECISION TO MAKE.

HE CAME TO ME, AND HE ASKED ME WHAT TO DO.

HE WANTED TO KNOW IF IT'S WHAT *I* WOULD'VE WANTED. IF I WERE-- IF I WERE THE *OTHER* ME. *YOUR* ME.

I GET IT-- CONFUSING.

AND I TRIED TO ANSWER HIM THE BEST I COULD. I THOUGHT ABOUT HOW I WOULD FEEL, IF I WERE...ME.

BUT THE TRUTH IS, I HAVE *NO IDEA* WHAT THAT GWEN WOULD'VE DONE.

WE DON'T HAVE THAT LUXURY HERE, DO WE? YES, WE ALL HAD THESE VISIONS OF NORMAN KILLING HIM.

BUT, MILES--WHEN YOU TALKED TO HIM, YOU *TOLD* HIM THAT WAS A RISK, AND IT DIDN'T CHANGE HIS MIND, DID IT?

THIS IS WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY--

"--THIS IS *HIS* FIGHT.

KOM

"THESE ARE HIS *DEMONS.*

TZZZ

TZZZ

TZZZ

TZZZ

"WE MAY THINK WE KNOW BEST--

KROK

"--WE MAY THINK HE'S WRONG--

FWOOSH

"--BUT HASN'T HE EARNED THE RIGHT TO MAKE THAT CHOICE *HIMSELF?*

"I MEAN, COME ON--

"--THIS IS *SPIDER-MAN.*

"THERE'S A *REASON* THEY CALL HIM THE BEST OF US.

THWIP

"IT TOOK ME A *WHILE* TO FIGURE IT OUT. THE PETER PARKER *I* KNEW WAS A VERY DIFFERENT GUY.

FRAM

"THIS ONE IS THE REAL DEAL. A *HERO.*

RRRRAAAGGGHH

"NO MATTER WHO TRIES TO STOP HIM, HE'S GOING TO DO WHAT HE BELIEVES IS RIGHT.

HKK!

KRAK

"AND IF WE TOLD HIM THAT'S HOW HE'D *DIE?*

"WELL, I'M GUESSING--

FRAM

KRAK

"--HE WOULDN'T HAVE IT ANY OTHER WAY."

UNFF!

THERE'S GOTTA BE ANOTHER WAY.

PWOOMP

SPIDER-MAN, YOU USELESS CUR! HELP ME--

=SIGH= YES, GOBBY. ONE BUTT SAVE COMING RIGHT UP...

THWIP

GUESS I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED.

NORMAN AND I ARE USED TO FIGHTING *EACH OTHER*--

--NOT *TOGETHER.*

YOU *IDIOT!* GET OUT OF THE WAY--

YOU ASKED ME TO--

THWIP

ONLY A MATTER OF TIME--

OOF!

THUP

--BEFORE SIN-EATER TAKES ADVANTAGE.

OKAY, THINK FAST, SPIDEY. THERE'S NOWHERE LEFT TO RUN--

AT LEAST NOT IN *FRONT* OF YOU...

THWIP

THWIP

THWIP

THWIP

THWIP

THWIP

THWIP

THWIP

THWIP

THWIP

THWIP

HEY, STANLEY, SO SORRY--

--BUT I THINK WE'VE GOT THE WRONG FLOOR...

GOING DOWN!

YOINK

HEY, GOBBY-- HOLD ON!

I'VE GOT Y--

RRUMM

BOOOOOOM

SO YEAH, I'M *GWEN STACY*--

--THANKS FOR COMING TO MY TED TALK.

JUST--ONE LAST THING AND I'M DONE.

I SAID BEFORE, HOW DO WE KNOW THE PATH WE'RE GOING DOWN ISN'T *WORSE?*

WE ALL KNOW THERE'S SOMETHING *BEHIND* SIN-EATER.

WE'VE ALL SEEN *BACK TO THE FUTURE.* TRYING TO CHANGE THINGS HAS CONSEQUENCES.

HOW DO WE KNOW WE'RE NOT PLAYING RIGHT INTO *WHOEVER-IT-IS'S* HANDS? LOOK--

--MAYBE I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO FEELS THIS WAY.

BUT WHY DON'T WE PUT IT TO ONE MORE *VOTE?*

DO YOU REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME WE MET, PETER?

UHNN...

I MEAN *TRULY* MET. FACE-TO-FACE...

"I BARED MY SOUL TO YOU.

"CONFESSED MY DARKEST SECRETS."

TRAPPED-- ⇒NNFF⇐--

DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT YOU DID IN *RETURN?*

"YOU *REJECTED* ME!"

I ALWAYS *HATED* YOU FOR THAT.

GNNN-- I WAS A KID, NORMAN. I WAS SCARED.

SO WAS I!

YOU CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT IT WAS LIKE IN THOSE EARLY DAYS--THE VOICES, THE SIDE EFFECTS OF THE SERUM...

I WAS LOSING CONTROL. I WAS *TERRIFIED.*

AND THEN I MET *YOU.* YOU WORE A MASK LIKE ME. WE BOTH PLAYED THE JOKER WHILE WE DANCED IN THE SKY.

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT UNDERSTAND ME. THAT I MIGHT NOT HAVE TO BE ALONE WITH THIS *BURDEN* INSIDE ME.

I HAD REACHED OUT IN MY OWN TWISTED WAY--I'LL ADMIT, IT WAS *AGGRESSIVE.* THAT WAS THE NATURE OF MY *ILLNESS!* BUT THAT REJECTION--

--IT *BROKE* ME. MY MIND SHATTERED. I SUFFERED A FIT OF *AMNESIA.* BUT WHEN MY MEMORIES RETURNED--

--OH, HOW I *HATED* YOU.

AND NOT JUST FOR THAT.

"AFTER YOU SPURNED ME--AFTER YOU BESTED ME IN BATTLE, AS MY LAB WENT UP IN FLAMES--

"--YOU *SAVED* ME."

YOU DON'T KNOW HOW *ANGRY* THAT MADE ME, PETER.

THAT YOU HAD HURT ME SO *DEEPLY,* AND YET, SOMEHOW I HAD TO LIVE IN YOUR *DEBT.*

WELL, AS OF TODAY-- *NFF--*

--CONSIDER THAT DEBT *PAID.*

COME WITH ME, PETER.

ANFF... WHERE ARE WE?

YOUR PLAN WORKED--

"AT LEAST FOR THE *MOMENT*.

"I TOLD YOU I HAD A STATION IN THE SUBBASEMENT."

WHOOSH

YOUR LITTLE STUNT PUT US RIGHT AT THE DOORSTEP.

HNN... LUCKY ME...

INDEED YOU ARE, WALL-CRAWLER.

THIS IS OUR WAY *OUT*.

WHAT THE--?

WH-WHAT *IS* THIS?

YOU KNOW HOW I LIKE TO KEEP BUSY.

THIS IS--AN *ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE*--BIGGEST ONE I'VE SEEN.

YOU COULD BLACK OUT HALF THE *EASTERN SEABOARD* WITH THIS--

INDEED--

--THOUGH MY FOCUS WAS MUCH CLOSER TO HOME.

WHATEVER NORMAN'S PLAN WAS, IT WAS *BAD.* BUT JUST LIKE BEFORE--

--I HAVE TO KEEP MY FOCUS ON THE PRESENT.

WHOOSH

WHOOSH

NO. MORE. *RUNNING.*

HATE TO SAY IT, GOBBY--BUT I THINK HE'S RIGHT.

HN. IF SO--

--TO THE BITTER END?

TO THE BITTER END.

THWIP

THE RETURN OF THE GREEN GOBLIN:

chapter three

YOUR CHOICE

THIS TIME, IT'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT.

TK

THWIP

I CAN'T EXPLAIN HOW OR WHY--

--BUT WITH OUR LIVES ON THE LINE, NORMAN AND I--

KRAM

FWAM

--WE FINALLY FIGURE OUT HOW TO WORK *TOGETHER.*

IT'S *VERY* DISCONCERTING.

READY, WALL-CRAWLER?

THWIP

SERVE 'EM UP, OSBORN. GOTTA SAY--

--NICE TO BE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THOSE THINGS FOR ONCE.

BWA-BOOM

OF COURSE, ALL THIS KUMBAYA STUFF WITH MY WORST FOE MIGHT COUNT FOR MORE--

--IF IT MATTERED AT ALL.

KA-THROOOM

HOW DID YOU EVER DEFEAT JUGGERNAUT IN THE *FIRST* PLACE?

WASN'T EASY. AND UNFORTUNATELY, I DON'T SEE ANY WET CONCRETE AROUND TO--

WAIT--THAT'S *IT!* THE EMP'S COMPRESSION GENERATOR--

I FAIL TO SEE HOW BLACKING OUT THE CITY WOULD STOP HIM.

NOT THE *CITY,* JUST THE GROUND UNDER OUR FEET.

AH, I SEE--YOU WANT TO REDIRECT THE FORCE OF IT! CREATE A TREMOR. BECAUSE WITH ANY *REAL* TREMOR COMES--

LIQUEFACTION.

THAT WOULD TAKE SOME VERY PRECISE CALCULATIONS IN A VERY NARROW WINDOW OF TIME.

CAN YOU DO IT?

I *BUILT* THE DAMN THING, DIDN'T I?

WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT. SPIDER-MAN AND THE GREEN GOBLIN, WORKING TOGETHER, USING SCIENCE TO SOLVE THEIR CHALLENGES. OH, NORMAN--

--WHAT YOU *COULD'VE* BEEN.

IT'S A HAREBRAINED PLAN, FEELS DOOMED TO FAIL EVEN AS I COME UP WITH IT. BUT ONE THING I KNOW--

--I HAVE TO *TRY.*

STAN, *STOP!*

THWIP

IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THIS WAY.

I TOLD YOU WHEN ALL THIS *STARTED*-- I LET YOU DOWN.

BUT I WAS JUST TALKING TO SOMEONE I'VE...KNOWN FOR A LONG TIME, AND IT MADE ME REALIZE HOW BADLY I FAILED YOU.

"WHEN YOU WERE RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL--YOU REACHED OUT TO ME.

"YOU NEEDED HELP. AND I-- I *REJECTED* YOU. I CHOSE NOT TO BELIEVE YOU."

I WAS JUST-- I WAS SO *ANGRY.* BECAUSE I WAS AFRAID.

I'M *ALWAYS* AFRAID. OF WHAT I MIGHT LOSE. WHAT SOMEONE LIKE YOU-- OR THE GOBLIN-- MIGHT *TAKE* FROM ME...

OF WHAT I MIGHT SCREW UP *NEXT.*

I'M THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, STAN.

YOUR DEATH IS ON *MY* HANDS. I WILL NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF FOR THAT. AND I KNOW YOU DON'T WANT MY HELP--BUT IF I CAN'T GET YOU TO ACCEPT *THAT*--

--THEN MAYBE I CAN OFFER YOU SOMETHING *ELSE.* FOR ALL THE EVIL, UNTHINKABLE THINGS HE'S DONE, NORMAN OSBORN ISN'T THE ONE TO BLAME HERE.

I AM. THESE ARE *MY* SINS. SO IF YOU HAVE TO *CLEANSE* SOMEONE--

--CLEANSE ME.

...

NO... NOT MY WILL--

KRAK

--BUT HIS BE DONE!

NOW, NORMAN!

KLK

SYSTEM POWERING ON.

THE FIRST BURST HITS LIKE A TON OF BRICKS.

THEN THEY JUST KEEP COMING, LIKE A POUNDING INSIDE YOUR BRAIN.

I START TO THINK MAYBE WE CAN PULL THIS OFF--

--BUT ONLY IF I BUY US TIME.

NO!

...

HE'S TOO STRONG. AN UNSTOPPABLE FORCE BEARING DOWN ON ME.

I CAN'T HOLD HIM BACK--

I HAVE TO.

COME ON, PETE.

FIGHT.

FIGHT!

I CAN FEEL BONES START TO SNAP.

AAAAARRRR!

BUT THEN I FEEL SOMETHING ELSE--

--THE GROUND BENEATH MY FEET.

WHAT--?!

WHAT-- WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

AN OLD TRICK. I KNOW THIS WON'T STOP YOU FOR GOOD, STAN--

--BUT IT MIGHT SLOW YOU DOWN FOR A WHILE.

YOU FOOL! YOU'D GIVE YOUR OWN LIFE-- FOR HIM?!

NO--NOT FOR *HIM*--

--FOR EVERYONE ELSE.

FOR WHAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE *RIGHT*.

YEAH, I COULD LIVE WITH THAT.

THEN AGAIN--

--HOW ABOUT I JUST *SURVIVE* INSTEAD?

THWIP

(ALWAYS EASIER SAID THAN DONE.)

SLIK

NORMAN-- COME ON, GIVE ME A--

--HAND.

YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME.

WE HAD A DEAL, NORMAN.

DID WE? I COULD SWEAR I ALREADY TOLD YOU--

--THAT DEBT HAS BEEN PAID.

PLEASE UNDERSTAND--THIS ISN'T HOW I WANTED IT TO BE, PETER. FOR EITHER OF US.

I MEAN, LOOK AROUND-- ALL THESE GRAND PLANS I'D MADE--THAT'S WHAT YOU DESERVE. A TRUE HERO'S DEATH, FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE--

--NOT DROWNING ALONE IN THE MUD.

BUT NONE OF US GET TO CHOOSE THESE THINGS, DO WE?

I SUPPOSE IN TIME I'LL LEARN TO LIVE WITH THE DISAPPOINTMENT.

NORMAN-- NO...

...NO...

NO?

GWEN?

MILES?!

IS THIS-- A SURPRISE PARTY OR SOMETHING?

IF SO, YOU ALL HAVE FANTASTIC TIMING.

SYSTEM POWERING DOWN.

IT'S A RESCUE MISSION, REALLY.

AND IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A PRE-EMPTIVE ONE--

--BUT THERE WAS A BIT OF CONTROVERSY ALONG THE WAY.

WE KNEW YOU WERE IN GRAVE DANGER-- IT WAS JUST A QUESTION OF WHEN AND HOW TO INTERVENE.

I DON'T GET IT--WERE YOU HERE TO SAVE ME FROM THE SIN-EATER, OR FROM--

THE OTHER GUY. THE DEBATE WAS WHETHER OR NOT TO THROW HIM TO THE SIN-EATER DUDE IN THE FIRST PLACE--

--AND WE ALMOST DID IT.

SO WHAT HAPPENED?

I DID--

I SAID IT WAS *YOUR* CALL. A RESPECT MOVE.

I REGRET IT ALREADY.

ALL THAT'S LEFT TO DECIDE IS WHAT TO DO WITH *THIS* GUY.

PETER, THANK HEAVENS.

YOU *SEE*, MY BOY? I TOLD YOU IT WOULD ALL WORK OUT IN THE END--

--SO LONG AS WE STICK TOGETHER.

COME ON, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.

THIS PLACE IS GONNA COME DOWN--

--AND THAT TRAP WON'T HOLD SIN-EATER FOR MORE THAN A COUPLE MINUTES.

DOES ANYONE KNOW HOW TO *PILOT* THIS THING?

AHEM. AS THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE *CONSTRUCTION* OF THIS VESSEL, I WOULD BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO ASSIST WITH--

NORMAN.

SIT DOWN. STAY THERE.

I'M SURE I CAN MANAGE. ASSUMING WE KNOW WHERE WE'RE GOING.

ANYWHERE. APPARENTLY THIS LEADS RIGHT OUT TO THE HUDSON. SO BRING US UP--AND FAST.

THAT TRAP WON'T HOLD LONG. I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO DEAL WITH SIN-EATER ONCE AND FOR ALL--

"--I JUST NEED TO HIDE OUR UNWANTED GUEST FIRST."

=SNIFF=

=SNIFF=

PARDON ME--I COULDN'T HELP BUT OVERHEAR, BACK IN THE CHAOS. DID SOMEONE CALL YOU...

...GWEN?

GWEN...

...IT--IT *IS* YOU, ISN'T IT? OH MY--

I'D HEARD RUMORS, OF COURSE, BUT EVEN STILL--

--TO ACTUALLY SEE YOU. TO BE ***NEAR*** YOU. WELL, IT'S, FORGIVE ME, IT'S JUST ALL A BIT...

...INTOXICATING.

EVEN IF IT'S NOT QUITE THE SAME.

WHO ARE YOU, THEN? ONE OF THE ***JACKAL'S*** CLONES? SOMEONE FROM ***ANOTHER DIMENSION?*** BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT QUITE ***MY*** GWENNIE, ARE YOU?

I'M NOT YOUR ***ANYTHING.***

NO, YOU'RE NOT--

--BUT ***GIVE IT TIME.***

YOUR ORIGINAL AND I, I'M SURE YOU KNOW, WE HAD QUITE A LOT OF HISTORY.

BUT I PREFER TO FOCUS ON THE ***HAPPIER TIMES.***

HEY!

GET AWAY FROM HER.

=SIGH= I'D BE HAPPY TO, BUT YOU TOLD ME NOT TO *MOVE*, REMEMBER? BESIDES--

--IT FELT LIKE WE WERE JUST STARTING TO MAKE A CONNECTION.

YOU DON'T *TALK* TO HER. YOU DON'T EVEN *LOOK* AT HER. YOU UNDERSTAND ME?

UH, EXCUSE ME--

--I *REALLY* DON'T NEED YOU TO PROTECT ME, THANKS.

KEEP TALKING, BUDDY. I'D LOVE TO FINISH ONE OF THOSE SENTENCES FOR YOU.

OOH, SHE'S GOT SOME *FIRE* IN HER, DOESN'T SHE?

JUST LIKE THE OLD DAYS. MY MY, PETER, I MUST SAY--THIS NEWFOUND PARTNERSHIP IS ALREADY PAYING *DIVIDENDS*, ISN'T IT?

I'M SURE WE CAN KEEP HER AROUND FOR A WHILE.

OF COURSE, WE MUSTN'T LET OURSELVES GET TOO ATTACHED. IT'S THE ***WORK*** THAT MATTERS MOST, AFTER ALL.

SHUT... UP...

AND TRY AS SHE MIGHT, IN THE END, IT WILL ALWAYS BE JUST ME AND YOU. BUT I ***PROMISE*** YOU, PETER, WHEN THAT DAY COMES, I'LL MAKE SURE IT'S AS QUICK AND PAINLESS AS I CAN STAND.

I SAID-- ***SHUT! UP!***

SHE DESERVES THAT.

ALL OF THEM DO.

YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING.

IS THAT ***EMPIRE STATE?***

NORMAN... WHAT ARE--

HE WILL KILL AGAIN.

THIS IS YOUR CHOICE.

THIS IS *YOUR* CHOICE.

YOU COULD'VE STOPPED HIM. BUT YOU DIDN'T. YOU HELPED HIM ESCAPE.

NOW YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS. WHAT ALWAYS HAPPENS NEXT--

SOMEONE DIES.

SOMEONE

ALWAYS

DIES.

YOUR CHOICE.

YOUR *FAULT.*

OKAY...MAYBE WE SHOULD ALL JUST...BRING IT DOWN A NOTCH--

YES, YES, LISTEN TO THE YOUNG MAN, PETER.

WE WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO *SNAP*, WOULD WE?

DON'T.

SLAM

...WHAT DID YOU JUST DO?

I MADE A DIFFERENT CHOICE.

NO, YOU DIDN'T.

BUT IT'S TOO LATE NOW.

SHE'S RIGHT.

RAMOS

BUT FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, PETE?

I GET WHY YOU DID IT.

HE WAS NEVER GONNA STOP. HE WOULD KILL THEM ALL.

AND SURE, YOU HAD THOSE CONVERSATIONS. YOU HAD YOUR HIGH-MINDED PRINCIPLES.

YOU COULD SEE THE *SOLUTION* TO HIM, BUT YOU JUST COULDN'T BRING YOURSELF TO *ALLOW* IT.

KIND OF A DIFFERENT THING WHEN IT'S STARING YOU RIGHT IN THE FACE, THOUGH. ISN'T IT? WHEN YOU KNOW WHAT'S COMING.

WHEN YOU FEEL IT.

SO, YEAH, DON'T BEAT YOURSELF UP. IT'S PERFECTLY UNDERSTANDABLE.

ONE WRONG, TO DO SO MUCH RIGHT? TO SAVE SO MANY LIVES?

BUT THIS IS WHAT I KEEP TRYING TO *TELL* YOU, PETE.

THE LESSON YOU GOTTA LEARN, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

THIS IS HOW IT *ALWAYS* IS WITH OUR SINS.

NO MATTER HOW DEEP YOU LAY THEM IN THE GROUND--

--THEY NEVER STAY BURIED.

TO BE CONTINUED!

SCHOOL DAYS, SCHOOL DAYS--

BACK IN... *JUNIOR YEAR* OF COLLEGE, I THINK? AND I WAS THINKING--

YIKES! HOW DO I GET MYSELF INTO THESE THINGS?

NO, WAIT. I *KNOW* HOW I GET MYSELF INTO THESE THINGS...

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN in "ALL YOU NEED IS...?"

THE *METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART*, IN CENTRAL PARK...

PARKER!

WHERE IN BLAZES *ARE* YOU? KEEP UP, PARKER, I'M A *BUSY MAN!*

...AND I ONLY HAD AN HOUR OR SO BEFORE *ADVANCED BIOPHYSICS*...

UH, JONAH? WILL THIS TAKE LONG? BECAUSE I'VE GOT A CLASS, AND I USUALLY DO FREELANCE CRIME PHOTOGRAPHY, NOT ASSIGNMENTS LIKE--

YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW THAT, PARKER? IF I HAD A STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER AVAILABLE, I WOULDN'T HAVE BROUGHT YOU.

BUT THE DAILY BUGLE IS ONE OF THE SPONSORS OF THIS NEW EXHIBIT, AND AS LONG AS J. JONAH JAMESON IS PUBLISHER OF THE BUGLE--

--I WON'T HAVE IT COVERED WITHOUT PICTURES OF ME WITH THE STAR!

THE, UH, STAR?

GOT MOSS IN YOUR EARS, PARKER? THE STAR! IT'S RIGHT UP THERE--

--THE STAR OF CAPISTAN!

HEY, NICE HEADPHONES.

WHAT'RE YOU LISTENING TO?

THE STAR OF CAPISTAN! THE LARGEST KNOWN RUBY IN THE WORLD! LOST FOR DECADES, RECOVERED, REPORTED DESTROYED, THEN RECOVERED AGAIN!

BUT ANCIENT LEGENDS SAY THE STAR HOSTS A MYSTIC SPIRIT WITH A MIND OF ITS OWN--AND IS CAPABLE OF POSSESSING PEOPLE--

--SO HA-HA NO TOUCHING, PLEASE!

PICTURES, PARKER, PICTURES!

OH, UH, SOME VINTAGE STUFF. "NOWHERE MAN." "I'M A LOSER"...

"I SAW HER STANDING THERE"?

HUH? UH, HI, I'M...AH, PETE. PETER--

PARKER, I KNOW. YOUR BOSS IS LOUD. I'M JUDY.

WELL, "HEY, JUDE"--

HA! "SAY THE WORD I'M *THINKING* OF..."

"I'M HAPPY JUST TO *DANCE* WITH YOU."

"ANY TIME AT *ALL!*"

"*BABY*, YOU CAN DRIVE MY--"

UT!

PFF. MESSED IT UP. I DON'T EVEN *HAVE* A--

RAAAAAAA!

WHAT...?

AW, *MAN.*

I...AM... RISEN!

AND THERE WE *WENT.*

MYSTIC *LEGENDS!* MYSTIC *FREAKIN'* LEGENDS! WHEN WILL PEOPLE *LEARN?!*

DON'T MESS WITH MYSTIC LEGENDS!

BIG OL' *FIGHT*, TOOK IT OUTSIDE, ACROSS THE PARK, AND THEN-- THEN THE *STRAWBERRIES*, BECAUSE WHO KNEW HE WAS INTO THAT--

WHOA.

I AM... THE *RED RAJAH!* MESSIAH OF THE *SINGLE SPIRIT!*

JOIN ME IN *HARMONIOUS UNION!*

A *SINGLE, GLOBAL SPIRIT*-- GUIDED BY *MY* BENEVOLENT WILL!

"SINGLE, GLOBAL SPIRIT"... *THAT* DOESN'T SOUND GOOD.

I READ ABOUT THIS *RAJAH* GUY. FOUGHT THE *HULK. DOC STRANGE?* MAYBE BOTH. HE *DID* HAVE A THING FOR UNIVERSAL HARMONY-- HIS WAY.

AND *I'D* BE AS CAUGHT UP IN HIS MYSTIC WHAMMY AS THOSE ZONKED-OUT *PEOPLE* DOWN THERE...

...IF I HADN'T MANAGED TO RIG MY HEADPHONES TO SET UP A *DISCORDANT SUBSONIC SQUEAL* THAT BLOCKS OUT WHATEVER IT IS HE'S DOING!

MAYBE IF I CAN YANK JONAH *OUT...*

HEY, *RAJ!* THIS ISN'T HOW TO *DO* IT! WORLD PEACE, SURE, BUT FREE WILL TOO!

LEMME JUST--

THWIPP

HAH! WALL-CRAWLING TWERP!

HUH? IT...ATE MY WEBS!

FOOL! THE WORLD WILL *KNOW* UNITY!

SINGLE-SOULED BLISS! AND NONE SHALL *STOP* ME--

--LEAST OF ALL *YOU, YOU MASKED MENACE!*

MAN, *SPOOKY* VOICE, BUT JONAH'S STILL *IN* THERE, ISN'T HE? HE'S JUST NOT DRIVING THE *BUS,* THE RAJAH IS. SO--

SPLAT

WHAT IN--?

NUTS! HE CALLS THIS UNIVERSAL PEACE? HE'S USING THE CROWD AS HIS PERSONAL FOOT SOLDIERS!

AND IS THAT...?

MARY JANE! JOE ROBERTSON! THEY MUST HAVE COME FOR THE EXHIBIT AND GOT CAUGHT UP IN THE CRAZY!

WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT, JUDY TOO.

I MEAN, USUALLY PEOPLE HAVE TO KNOW ME FOR AT LEAST A WEEK BEFORE THEY START THROWING STUFF AT--

--UH?

CHOMPP

C'MON, JONAH!

REMEMBER, YOU'RE FOR *LIBERTY*, A *FREE PRESS*, ALL THAT KINDA *GOOD STUFF!* THIS JUST ISN'T *YOU!*

PFAH!

YOU WILL *FALL*, WEB-HEAD! *ALL* WILL FALL...

...ALL WILL ABANDON THE *DICTATORIAL PRISON* OF CONSCIOUS THOUGHT THE *CURSE* OF INDIVIDUALISM!

ACOLYTES! WHAT DO WE SAY?

JOIN US!

KNOW BLISS!

BECOME ONE WITH THE SINGLE SPIRIT!

GLARP

AGH!

THIS IS *RIDICULOUS.*

I'M STUCK IN A *GIANT CARNIVOROUS STRAWBERRY* WITH A DISTORTED *JOHN, PAUL, GEORGE AND RINGO* IN MY EARS, PREACHING HARMONY AND TOGETHERNESS--

--BUT I DON'T THINK THEY HAD *THIS* IN MIND!

AND JONAH'S *IN* THERE! IF I COULD JUST GET *THROUGH* TO HIM-- BUT EVEN IF I COULD, HE HATES ME TOO MUCH TO *LISTEN,* AND--

SAAAAAYYYYYYY!

THERE'S AN IDEA!

PAFF

JONAH! BABY!

I WANNA HOLD YOUR HAND!

WH-WHAT?

I SURRENDER, JONAH! I'M IN! SPIRITUAL BLISS, BABY! *YOU* AND ME-- IN HARMONY *FOREVER!*

BUT WAIT--

LOVE, LOVE ME DO! WITH LOVE FROM ME TO YOU! WE'LL BE SO HAPPY, YOU AND ME!

NO! NOT--

PBLATCCCHHHHH

YEAH, YEAH, YEAH!

B-BLASTED WEB-H--

IT... *WORKED?*

MAN, I AM *SO* BUYING THAT COMPLETE BOX SET TOMORROW!

HUH?

WHAT HAP--

FUH-- FUH--

DID SPIDEY *SAVE* US?

NO! SPIDER-MAN DID NOTHING! *NOTHING!* I FREED *MYSELF*-- SAVED THE WORLD WITH THE *POWER OF MY WILL!*

HE *PLANTED* THAT GEM! HE--

AND WE'RE BACK...

ALL THAT WAS LEFT WAS TO STASH THE GEM WITH *DOC STRANGE,* CATCH THE LAST HALF OF CLASS, MAYBE COME BACK LATER, FIND *JUDY* AGAIN--

JONAH, JONAH, JONAH.

WE'VE LEARNED A *VALUABLE LESSON* TODAY, YOU AND ME. IT WAS *RIGHT THERE* IN THE SONG, AND WE DIDN'T SEE IT. BUT NOW WE *KNOW:*

THE MOVEMENT YOU NEED *IS* ON YOUR SHOULDER.

WHAT? *WHAT?*

IMAGINE

IMAGINE

THE END

LOOK UP... CAN YOU SEE THE STARS? NOT IN NEW YORK CITY! ONLY BURNING ELECTRICITY AND A HAZY HALF-MOON SET THE SKY ALIGHT TONIGHT! BUT, OH, WHAT A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT IT IS TO PETER PARKER, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN! A BRIGHT BREEZE BLOWS COOL COMFORT UPON OUR HERO AS HE SWINGS ACROSS MANHATTAN--LITTLE DOES HE KNOW THAT THIS COMFORT IS SOON TO BE STOMPED BY...

FOUR SHOES!

WHAT A NIGHT! WHEW, AFTER BEING COOPED UP ALL DAY IT SURE DOES FEEL GOOD TO GET OUT AND STRETCH MY LEGS.

AND COULD IT *BE?* COULD THIS POSSIBLY BE A CALM EVENING? I DON'T WANT TO JINX IT, BUT THERE'S BEEN NO FIGHTING AT ALL! I HAVEN'T HAD TO SOCK A VAMPIRE, OR LEAP OVER A LASER, OR HEADLOCK THE LIZARD OR ANYTHING!

TONIGHT-- I'M CALLING IT RIGHT NOW-- TONIGHT IS MY *NIGHT.*

Just then...

DONK!

ORF!

OUCH!

AAAAAA

OOF!

EEF!

F

F

WHAT THE HECK WAS THAT?! IT FELT LIKE A VOICE JUST HIT ME IN THE HEAD!

OH NO, WHAT IS *THAT?*

The shimmering cube vibrates a silent song. Amidst the melody comes a chorus of barking!

BARK! BARK! BARK! BARK! BARK! BARK!

OH NOOOO. A SHIMMERING CUBE... BARKS THAT CRY *"HELP!"*...

I THINK I'M DEALING WITH... *MAGIC!*

IF I'VE LEARNED ONE THING IN ALL MY YEARS, IT'S THIS: WHEN YOU SEE A SHIMMERING CUBE FLOATING ABOVE A RIVER...

I HEAR YOU! I'M COMING!

BARK! BARK! BARK! BARK! BARK!

GZZAPPP!

WHOA!

I *KNEW* IT WAS MAGIC! OR MYSTERIO... LORD HELP ME, I HOPE IT'S NOT MYSTERIO. I CAN'T STAND THAT GUY.

ORPH?! WHAT MEAN YOU BY *ORPH?!*

SPEAK NOT TO ME RIDDLES, YOU BRAYING BEAST! I'LL SUFFER THEM NO LONGER!

THOSE VOICES SOUND FRANTIC. BETTER GO CHECK IT OUT.

GOTTA BE SNEAKY, THOUGH.

ALWAYS GOTTA BE SNEAKY WHEN THERE'S *MAGIC* INVOLVED.

I HAVE YOU...

...FINALLY... A THOUSAND, THOUSAND YEARS OF CHASING...

WHAT THE--

...AND I HAVE YOU!

THAT DOG HAS SHOES ON.

AND SHE'S IN SOME *SERIOUS* TROUBLE...

ORF.

The magic word spoken a second time stirs Spider-Man's sweet spirit!

That's her! That's the barking voice I heard! All right, ol' girl, I'm here. Let's see what we can do...

NO! *SILENCE*, you! What does it mean? I can't recall what it means, this orph. Wretched, cursed *ORPH!*

No more *spells*, Teena Forshews! No more daring escapes! I've seen too much! We've gone too far! Can't you see we've gone too far? Please...don't run again. *Don't make me...*

Do you remember the time we...

"And when we said we would...

"Wait...not *ORPH*...

"ORF.

"Heaven help us...

"You barked *ORF.*

"Memories flooding back..."

I remember a soothsayer... a prophecy...

...no...

How could you?

UNDER SUNDERED
HALF-MOON
'BOVE EARTH SHAPE
NEON BLACK

A SPIDER
WILL COME
TO DIVIDE YOU
TO DIVIDE YOU

ONE WORD,
THREE TIMES
'TWEEN TWO,
BY ONE

A SPIDER
WILL COME
TO DIVIDE YOU
TO DIVIDE YOU

CALL "ORF,"
CRY THRICE
RED DEVIL,
BLUE FRIEND

A SPIDER
WILL COME
TO DIVIDE YOU
TO DIVIDE YOU

DON'T SAY IT AGAIN, TEENA!

THE THIRD TIME WILL TEAR US APART!

ORF

PSH

STAY AWAY FROM THAT DOG!

The third "ORF" manifests action! Spider-Man and Teena fight Pellinora and her chicken devils with a fury never seen before by the firs of this forest!

TWIP-TWUP-TWIP

PEOW! PEOW! PEOW!

EEEEEEEEE

BIG

PUNG

Victory!

HA! THAT'S WHAT YOU GET! DON'T YOU KNOW ATTACKING DOGS IS BAAAA--

SOB SOB SOB SOB SOB SOB

Alas, in war there are no victors.

--AAAAAD. BAD. I FEEL EXTREMELY BAD RIGHT NOW.

TEENA, I'M SO SORRY. YOU KNOW I'D NEVER HURT YOU. I JUST... PLEASE...

PLEASE DON'T GO. DON'T LEAVE ME. I KNOW YOU HAVE OTHER DREAMS, BUT...

...I CAN'T...WHAT ARE WE WITHOUT EACH OTHER? WITHOUT THE QUEST?

WITHOUT THE CHASE?

AWWWOOO

TOH

"WHAT ARE WE?"

WHOOAAAAA!

THWIP!

OOF!

SO, YOUR NAME IS *TINA?* DID I HEAR THAT CORRECTLY?

RUFF.

TINA *FOUR-SHOES?* THAT'S AMAZING. AND YOU'RE A... *WIZARD?*

RUFF.

NICE!

I KNOW A SORCERER OVER ON BLEECKER STREET I *GOTTA* INTRODUCE YOU TO.

Who needs stars anyway?

Sleep tight, true believers.

TO BE CONTINUED?

UNION SQUARE, NYC.

NEW *DRAWING PENCILS?!* GRANDPA, THANK YOU!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FIRECRACKER.

WOW, THESE ARE THE *EXPENSIVE* KIND. YOU DIDN'T NEED TO DO THIS.

I DID TOO! A BUDDING YOUNG ARTIST NEEDS HER TOOLS, AFTER ALL.

YOU ALWAYS TOOK MY DRAWING *SERIOUS.*

DAMN RIGHT I DID! I KNOW TALENT WHEN I SEE IT.

WHEN YOU WERE TEN, YOU DREW THIS PICTURE OF US PLAYING TOGETHER.

WHEN I WAS LOCKED UP, I'D LOOK AT THAT PICTURE EVERY DAY. GOT ME THROUGH SOME TOUGH TIMES.

I LOVE YOU, GRANDPA.

I LOVE YOU, TOO. AND I--

DAMN!

WHAT IS IT?

"IT'S SPIDER-MAN!"

THWIP

YOU'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE, FIRECRACKER.

NAW. YOU'VE BEEN TELLING ME FOR YEARS ABOUT SPIDER-MAN HAVING IT IN FOR YOU. I'M NOT GONNA LET HIM HURT YOU AGAIN.

YOU GET OUT OF HERE, GRANDPA. I GOT THIS.

DON'T BE RIDICULOUS, DEAR. I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU FIGHT MY BATTLES FOR--

YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE YOUR FLIGHT SUIT AND I DO. YOU'D BE TOAST. AND WITH MOM GONE, YOU'RE ALL I *GOT*.

I CAN'T LET YOU GO TO PRISON AGAIN. I JUST CAN'T.

PLEASE GO, GRANDPA. *PLEASE.*

GAH! DANG PIGEONS! CAN'T YOU SEE I'M ON PATROL HERE? I--

LEAVE MY GRANDPA ALONE!

HUH? WHO ARE YOU?

WAS THAT PIGEON YOUR GRANDPA?

NAME'S STARLING. AND I DON'T WANNA HURT YOU, BUT I WILL IF YOU DON'T *BACK OFF.*

HI, I'M SPIDER-MAN. I'D BACK OFF, BUT I DIDN'T... FRONT IN?

THWIP

SHINK!

KRAK

DON'T YOU GOT ANYTHING BETTER TO DO THAN HUNT DOWN OLD MEN HAVING BRUNCH?

HOLD THE PHONE, I *MISSED A BRUNCH INVITE?* WHEN DID-- *UNH!*

THUMP

HE MIGHT BE THE VULTURE BUT HE'S MY *GRANDPA,* AND I WON'T LET YOU TAKE HIM AWAY!

VIP! VIP! VIP! VIP!

TIME TO SAY GOOD NIGHT!

TING

TING

TING

ACTUALLY, I DON'T THINK I'M READY TO--- YEEOWW!

VIP VIP VIP VIP

HOW ARE YOU STILL UP?! THESE ARE ELEPHANT TRANQUILIZERS!

I'M T-TOUGHER THAN I LOOK. AT LEAST YOU'RE LESS VICIOUS THAN YOUR GRANDPA.

DON'T COUNT ON IT. TIME FOR YOU TO CATCH HANDS.

LISTEN, I WASN'T EVEN LOOKING...FOR THE VULTURE, BUT SINCE WE'RE HERE...

YOU SURE YOU WANT TO DEFEND...A MURDERER?

A WHAT?!

MY GRANDPA'S DONE SOME SHADY THINGS, BUT HE'S NOT A MURDERER.

FWUP

S-SORRY TO BE THE ONE... TO TELL YOU, KID. BUT HE'S GOT... BLOOD ON HIS HANDS.

WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE...IF I HADN'T STOPPED HIM A FEW TIMES.

THE THINGS I'VE SEEN HIM DO WITH MY OWN EYES...

HE MIGHT BE YOUR GRANDPA... BUT ADRIAN TOOMES IS BAD NEWS.

YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME... GOOGLE VULTURE AND NATHAN LUBENSKY. OR THE GIBBON.

MEANWHILE, I'M GONNA TAKE A NAP. PLEASE DON'T BEAT ME UP WHILE I'M ASLEEP, OKAY?

THE COURTS, THE NEWS--HE ALWAYS SAID THEY WERE *LYING*...

ZzZz

...BUT MAYBE I'VE BEEN LYING TO MYSELF.

ZzZz

END.

FREE COMIC BOOK DAY 2020

"THERE HE IS."

"I TOLD YOU. DON'T I ALWAYS COME THROUGH?"

"KEEP IN MIND *THIS* IS ALL *YOUR FAULT.*"

"HEY, BABE, I DIDN'T CRASH THAT MAGGIA WEDDING *ALL BY MYSELF.*

"BESIDES, IS THAT ANY WAY TO TALK TO YOUR *BEAUTIFUL WIFE?*"

I'M HERE, I'M HERE.

"YOU--I--WE'RE NOT *MARRIED!*"

"WHAT?!

"WHAT ABOUT OUR *VOWS?* DID THEY MEAN *NOTHING* TO YOU?"

WE REALLY GOT TO DO THIS UP HERE?

BECAUSE: *YIKES.*

"NO! IT WAS A SCAM! IT WAS A SCAM WEDDING!"

"HAHAHA!"

I AM *THE VULTURE,* YOU CRETIN.

I DO MY BUSINESS WHERE I PLEASE. AND YOUR TERROR...

...PLEASES ME.

UH, YEAH, OKAY. YOU GOT THE STUFF?

"WHEN WE *WENT UNDERCOVER* TO SAVE THOSE KIDS FROM THE MAGGIA'S 'WEDDING' AND YOU... CONFISGATED THEIR...ILL-GOTTEN GAINS, THEN FRAMED HYDRA, THEY WENT TO WAR IN THE STREETS.

OF COURSE. TWO DOZEN SKRULL FEAR-GAS GRENADES.

FROM MOLDERING IN A FORGOTTEN S.H.I.E.L.D. LOCKUP SINCE THE INVASION TO FINDING THEIR DESTINY IN YOUR LITTLE WAR WITH WHAT'S LEFT OF HYDRA.

"AND IF THE MAGGIA ARE BUYING ALIEN WEAPONS, THAT WAR WILL GET OUT OF CONTROL.

"PEOPLE WILL GET HURT. INNOCENT PEOPLE."

HMM? SORRY, SPIDER. I NODDED OFF.

WERE YOU DOING YOUR "RESPONSIBILITY, DUTY, INNOCENT PEOPLE" SPEECH AGAIN?

-SIGH-... WHY DO I EVEN BOTHER?

WHATEVER, LET'S DO THIS.

...FOR I AM **KING** OF THESE RAREFIED AIRS, THE **LORD** OF THE HEIGHTS!

NOTHING ESCAPES MY NOTICE IN THESE SKIES--

WHAMM

KRSSHH

GAAH!

HEY, FUN FACT...

...DID YOU KNOW THAT THERE ARE SPIDERS IN *AUSTRALIA* THAT EAT *BIRDS?*

WILD, RIGHT?

SPIDER-MAN! YOU LITTLE--

WITH *THAT* IN MIND, WHAT'S A LITTLE *KICK IN THE HEAD* BETWEEN *PALS,* HUH, ADRIAN?

THE DON AIN'T GOING TO BE HAPPY ABOUT *THIS* ONE...

HEY HEY...

...WHAT DO YOU GOT IN THAT BRIEFCASE, BUD?

COME ON, ADRIAN. GIVE UP THE GOODS.

YOU DON'T WANT TO CATCH A BEATING, AND WHIPPING ON A *SENIOR CITIZEN'S* JUST GOING TO FEED THE "THREAT OR MENACE" MACHINE.

HOW?!

HOW COULD YOU *POSSIBLY* FIND OUT ABOUT THIS DEAL?!

GAHH!

OH, THAT WAS *ME.*

HI, ADRIAN.

OF COURSE. THE BLACK CAT.

SPIDER-MAN'S LITTLE *SNITCH.*

RUDE!

KLIK

HOW DARE YOU CALL YOURSELF A *THIEF,* WORKING WITH THAT WALL-CRAWLER. HOW *DARE* YOU!

AND AFTER I OFFERED YOU A SPOT ON THE *SAVAGE SIX!*

I'M A STICKY-FINGERED RECIDIVIST THROUGH AND THROUGH, ADRIAN.

I JUST HATE *YOU,* THAT'S ALL.

BECAUSE YOU *SUCK.*

AND YOU'RE *OLD.*

THAT'S NOT VERY *NICE,* CAT.

YOU'RE RIGHT-- I APOLOGIZE, ADRIAN. I DON'T HATE YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE OLD.

I HATE YOU BECAUSE YOU SUCK.

WILL YOU TWO *IDIOT CHILDREN*

SHUT

UP?!

YOU MORONS! YOU ABSOLUTE BUFFOONS!

ALL YOU DO, THE TWO OF YOU!

TALK, TALK, TALK!

HEY, DO YOU WANT TO GET SUSHI AFTER THIS?

I HAD SUSHI FOR LUNCH. TACOS?

AAARGHH!!!

HA! GOTCHA!

FEH!

YOU'LL NOT CAPTURE ME THAT EASILY!

TELL ME, BLACK CAT...

YEEP!

...ARE YOU AFRAID OF HEIGHTS?

HAHA!

THE VULTURE RULES THE SKIES!

BEEP

MAN, YOU ARE CORNY.

FINE, GO ON.

KEEP YOUR STUPID FEAR-GAS GRENADES.

SEE IF I CARE.

OKAY. NO FEAR. HE'S GOT ME.

HE'S ***ALWAYS*** GOT ME.

FELICIA! ARE YOU OKAY?

WHOOF!

PURRR-FECT, SPIDER.

THANKS FOR THE SAVE.

I CAN'T ***BELIEVE*** HE GOT AWAY.

OH, I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT ***THAT.***

WHAT DID YOU DO?

ME? OH, ***NOTHING.***

BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP

OH NO.

"I JUST THINK HE'S GOING TO RUN INTO...

"...SOME BAD LUCK."

KA-BOOM!

AAAAAIIEEEE!!!

Later.

BUT I ALREADY *ATE* SUSHI TODAY! AND THIS TIME IN ASTORIA NO LESS!

QUIT YOUR MOANING. I *PAID* FOR IT, DIDN'T I?

LORD, MY MERCURY LEVELS ARE GOING TO BE THROUGH THE *ROOF.*

LOOK, I'VE BEEN *MEANING* TO ASK, AND THIS IS AS GOOD AN OPPORTUNITY AS *ANY:*

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?

WHY, WHATEVER DO YOU *MEAN?*

FELICIA,

WHAT ARE YOU *UP* TO?

FIRST I HEAR THAT **SILVER SABLE** BROKE INTO DOCTOR STRANGE'S PAD--

WOW, YOU THINK YOU **KNOW** SOMEONE--

--THEN I HEAR THAT YOU WERE AT THE **FANTASTIC FOUR'S** PLACE--

AND STOPPED AN **ALIEN INVASION.**

--THEN **DANNY RAND** TELLS ME YOU BROKE INTO **HIS** BUILDING, WITH THE **BEETLE--**

I DIDN'T **STEAL** ANYTHING--

--AND **THEN, TONY STARK** COMES TO ME ALL IN A LATHER, WANTING TO KNOW ABOUT **YOU!**

WHAT CAN I SAY? I'M AN **IT GIRL.**

AND YOUR CREW, FROM THE MAGGIA WEDDING? THEY **BEAT ME UP** ONE TIME, BACK WHEN **WE** FIRST MET!

WAIT, SERIOUSLY?

I THOUGHT THEY WERE **LYING...**

LOOK, SPIDER...

I DO THINGS **YOU** DON'T LIKE. YOU DO THINGS **I** DON'T LIKE.

LIKE WHAT?!

LIKE SHACKING UP WITH REDHEADS.

THOUGH SERIOUSLY, YOU'RE SHACKED UP WITH **BOOMERANG** NOW? REALLY? BOOMERANG?

ERR...

OUR RELATIONSHIP-- OUR **FRIENDSHIP**--IS A WEIRD BALANCE.

MAYBE I'M RUNNING A CAPER. OR MAYBE THOSE ARE ALL JUST COINCIDENCES. BUT YOU KNOW ME WELL ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT I'M NOT GOING TO **HURT** ANYONE.

OR NOT ANYONE WHO DOESN'T HAVE IT COMING, AT LEAST.

I GUESS THAT'S AS GOOD AN ANSWER AS I'M GOING TO GET, ISN'T IT?

PRETTY MUCH. DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, SPIDER.

HAVE YOU MET ME? **ALL I DO** IS WORRY ABOUT THE PEOPLE IN MY LIFE.

HA!

SPEAKING OF WHICH, DO YOU THINK THE VULTURE'S GOING TO BE OKAY?

"HONESTLY?

"WHO CARES?"

SPIDERS THAT EAT BIRDS!

SPIDERS THAT EAT BIRDS!

CATS AND SPIDERS THAT EAT BIRDS!

The end.

#48 VARIANT BY
MARK BAGLEY, JOHN DELL & JASON KEITH

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN THE SINS OF NORMAN OSBORN
VARIANT BY CASANOVAS

#48 HEROES AT HOME VARIANT BY
GURIHIRU & ZEB WELLS

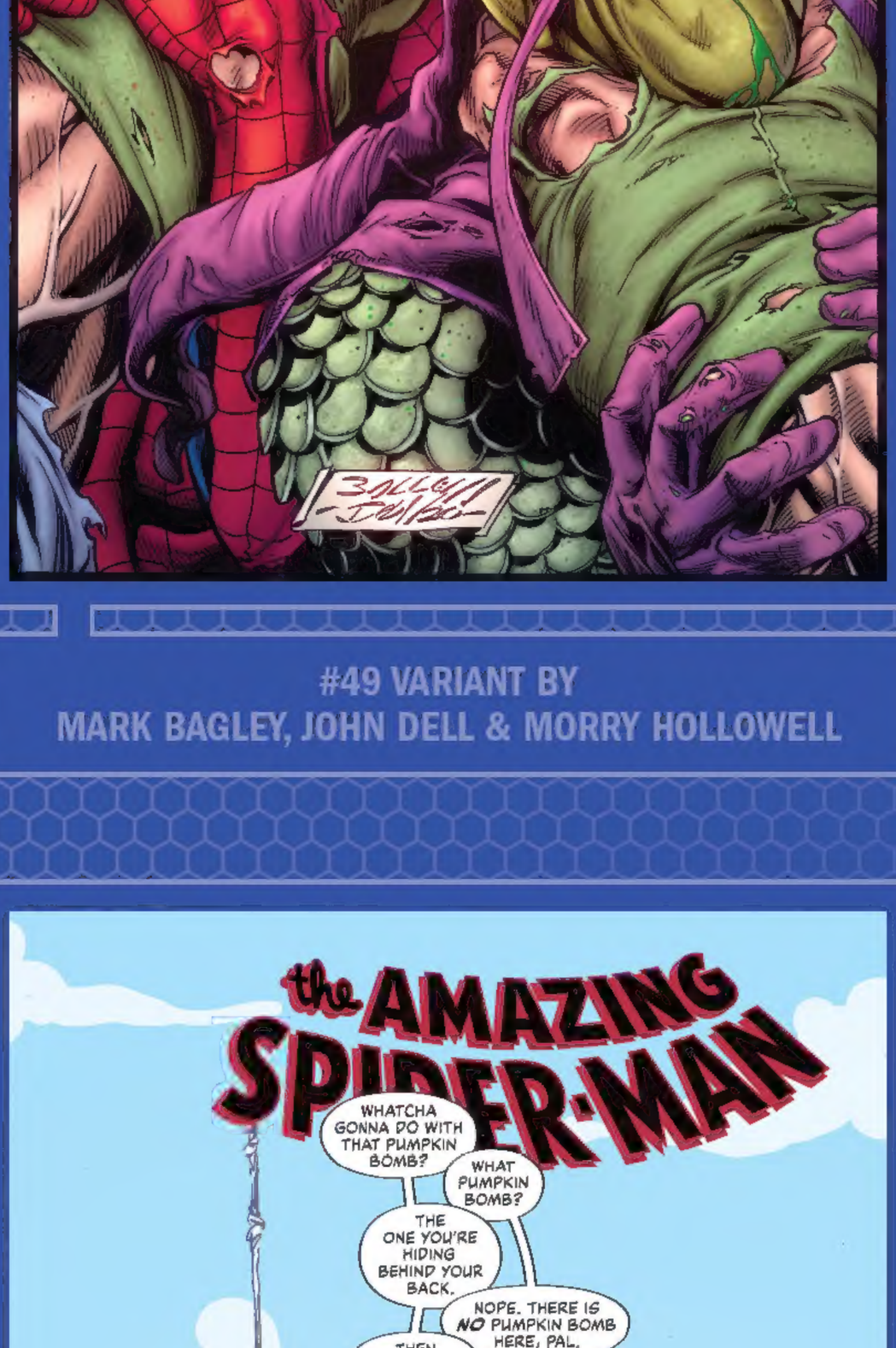
#49 VARIANT BY MAHMUD ASRAR

#49 VARIANT BY JOE QUESADA, DANNY MIKI & RICHARD ISANOVE

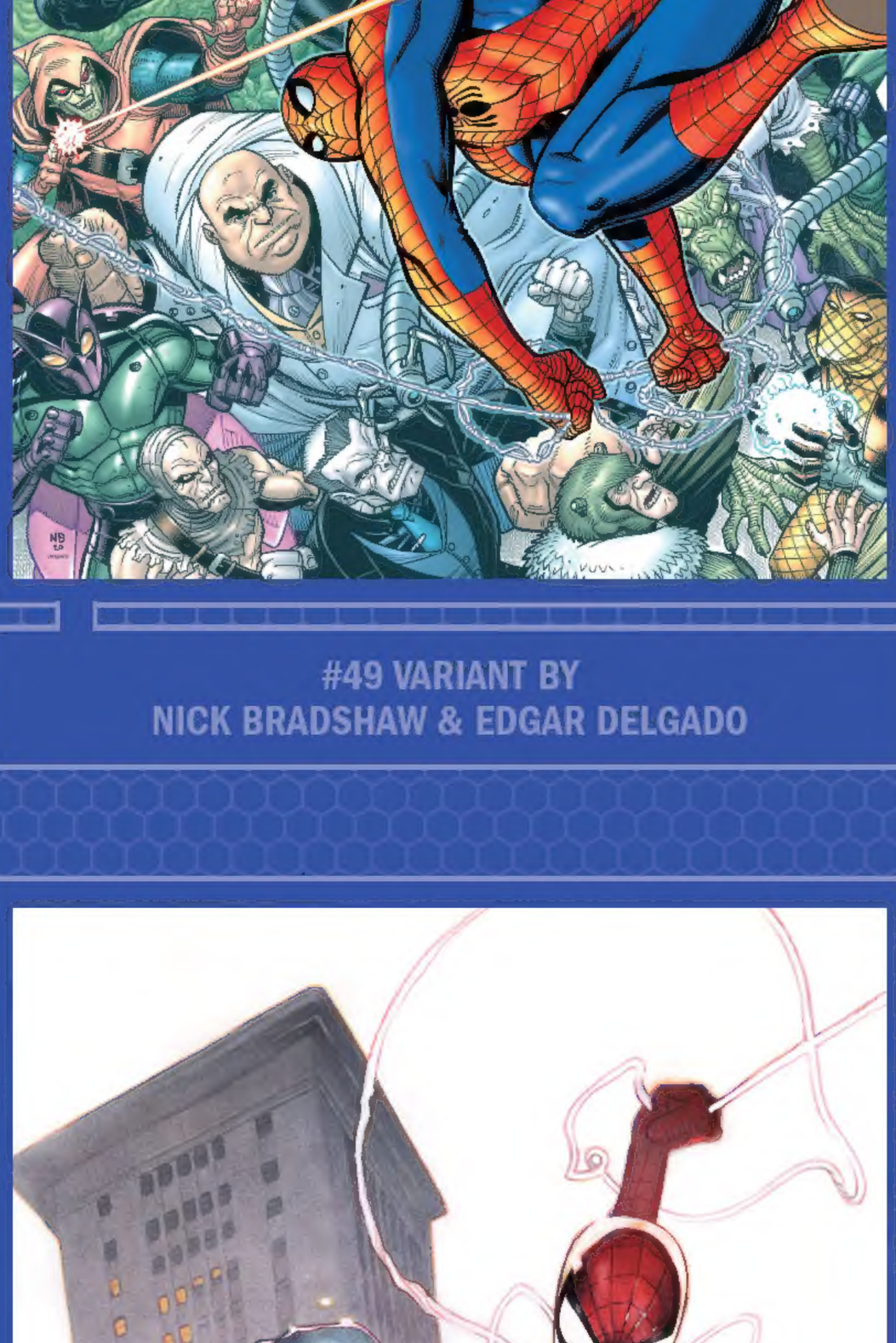
#49 VARIANT BY BRUCE TIMM

#49 VARIANT BY
MARK BAGLEY, JOHN DELL & MORRY HOLLOWELL

#49 VARIANT BY
NICK BRADSHAW & EDGAR DELGADO


the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
WHATCHA GONNA DO WITH THAT PUMPKIN BOMB?
WHAT PUMPKIN BOMB?
THE ONE YOU'RE HIDING BEHIND YOUR BACK.
NOPE. THERE IS NO PUMPKIN BOMB HERE, PAL.
THEN WHAT'S THAT SMOKE?
OH, THAT? I JUST TOOTED.
DID YOU JUST SAY "TOOTED"?
WHAT? NO. WHO TALKS LIKE THAT?
A VILLAIN HIDING A PUMPKIN BOMB BEHIND HIS BACK.
WHAT PUMPKIN BOMB?
SKOTTIE YOUNG 2020

#49 VARIANT BY
SKOTTIE YOUNG



#49 VARIANT BY
OLIVIER COIPEL

#49 VARIANT BY
PATRICK GLEASON & EDGAR DELGADO

#49 VARIANT BY
INHYUK LEE

#49 VARIANT BY
HUMBERTO RAMOS & EDGAR DELGADO

#49 VARIANT BY
J. SCOTT CAMBPELL & SABINE RICH

"A breakdown of what makes Spider-Man tick, and perhaps one of the finest and most introspective looks at the Green Goblin and Spider-Man dynamic ever made." – AIPT

HOW FAR CAN SPIDER-MAN STRETCH

BEFORE HE BREAKS?

NICK SPENCER AND A HOST OF LEGENDARY CREATORS celebrate 850 issues of *Amazing Spider-Man* – by pushing the web-slinger harder than ever before! The resurrected Sin-Eater has leveled up thanks to Kindred – and just as his reign of terror reaches riot level, the Green Goblin returns! Norman Osborn is back – and his troubled past will haunt both him and Peter Parker. Spidey has been through a lot over the years, but even his worst moments have just been a prelude to this! Can he get by with a little help from his friends? Miles Morales, Spider-Woman, Ghost-Spider, Spider-Girl and Madame Web assemble as the Order of the Web is born!

COLLECTING ***AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (2018) #48-49***, ***AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: THE SINS OF NORMAN OSBORN*** AND MATERIAL FROM ***FREE COMIC BOOK DAY 2020 (SPIDER-MAN/VENOM)*** – BY NICK SPENCER, KURT BUSIEK, SALADIN AHMED, TRADD MOORE, JED MACKAY, MARK BAGLEY, AARON KUDER, CHRIS BACHALO, HUMBERTO RAMOS, RYAN OTTLEY, FEDERICO VICENTINI, PATRICK GLEASON, JOHN DELL, CLIFF RATHBURN, TIM TOWNSEND, VICTOR OLAZABA, DAVID CURIEL, EDGAR DELGADO, FRANK D'ARMATA, NATHAN FAIRBAIRN AND TAMRA BONVILLAIN.

MARVEL

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